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<p>(54) Title: POLYPEPTIDES OF LIPOPOLYSACCHARIDE BINDING PROTEIN</p>		
<p>(57) Abstract</p>		
<p>The present invention provides a first polypeptide fragment of lipopolysaccharide (LPS) binding protein (LBP) which binds to lipopolysaccharide, but prevents the LPS:LBP complex from either transferring LPS to CD14 or promoting the formation of an LPS:CD14 complex and a second polypeptide fragment of LBP which binds to CD14 receptor to inhibit binding of LPS:LBP complex to the CD14 receptor. Also included are methods of ameliorating symptoms of sepsis in a subject by administration of an LBP polypeptide of the invention, or administration of antibody to LBP polypeptide or anti-idiotypic antibody.</p>		

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POLYPEPTIDES OF LIPOPOLYSACCHARIDE BINDING PROTEIN

This invention was made with Government support under Grant No. AI 25563, AI 32021 and AI 15136 awarded by the National Institute of Health. The Government has certain rights in this invention.

5 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. *Field of the Invention*

The present invention relates generally to polypeptides of lipopolysaccharide binding protein (LBP) that inhibit the binding of lipopolysaccharide (LPS) released by gram-negative bacteria to the CD14 receptor, and specifically to the use of these polypeptides
10 to ameliorating sepsis and the symptoms of sepsis in a subject and for assaying for gram-negative bacterial LPS.

2. *Description of Related Art*

Sepsis is induced by a toxin, the introduction or accumulation of which is most commonly caused by infection or trauma. The initial symptoms of sepsis typically include chills,
15 profuse sweat, irregularly remittent fever, prostration and the like, followed by persistent fever, hypotension leading to shock, neutropenia, leukopenia, disseminated intravascular coagulation, adult respiratory distress syndrome and multiple organ failure.

Sepsis-inducing toxins have been found associated with pathogenic bacteria, viruses, plants and venoms. Among the well described bacterial toxins are the endotoxins or
20 lipopolysaccharides (LPS) of the gram-negative bacteria. These molecules are glycolipids that are ubiquitous in the outer membrane of all gram-negative bacteria. The gram-negative bacteria of the gastrointestinal tract produce disease by invasion of tissue and by release of pharmacologically active LPS from the cell wall. Endotoxins from a wide variety of unrelated species behave quite similarly, regardless of the inherent pathogenic-

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ity of the microorganism from which they are derived or their antigenic structure. In the intact microorganism, endotoxins exist as complexes of lipid, polysaccharide, glycolipid and non-covalently-bound protein. The biologic activity seems to be a property of a lipid and carbohydrate portion.

5 Septic shock is characterized by inadequate tissue perfusion, most frequently following gram-negative bacteremia. The most common causative organisms are *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella-Enterobacter*, *Proteus*, *Pseudomonas*, and *Serratia*. *Neisseria meningitidis* bacteremia and gram-negative anaerobic bacteremia with *Bacteroides* spp are also important causes of septic shock. Most of the bacteria which cause gram-negative sepsis
10 are normal commensals in the gastrointestinal tract. From there they may spread to contiguous structures, as in peritonitis after appendiceal perforation, or they may migrate from the perineum into the urethra or bladder.

The primary response of the host to LPS involves the recognition of LPS by cells of the monocyte/macrophage lineage, followed by the rapid elaboration of a variety of cell
15 products including the general group known as cytokines. Other cell types believed to participate in sepsis and in particular in the response to LPS are polymorphonuclear leukocytes and endothelial cells. Each of these cell types are also capable of responding to LPS with an elaboration of potent inflammatory substances.

LPS is believed to be a primary cause of death in humans during gram-negative sepsis,
20 particularly when the symptoms include adult respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS). One particular cytokine, tumor necrosis factor (TNF), has recently been reported to be a primary mediator of septic shock (Beutler, *et al.*, *New Eng. J. Med.*, 316:379, 1987). Intravenous injection of LPS endotoxin from bacteria into experimental animals and man produces a rapid, transient release of TNF (Beutler, *et al.*, *J. Immunol.*, 135:3972, 1985).
25 Evidence that TNF is a critical mediator of septic shock comes primarily from experiments in which pretreatment of animals with anti-TNF antibodies reduces lethality (Beutler, *et al.*, *Science*, 229:869, 1985; Mathison, *et al.*, *J. Clin. Invest.* 81:1925, 1988).

These reports suggest that inhibition of the secretion of TNF caused by LPS or other factors would ameliorate the often lethal symptoms of sepsis.

LPS binding protein (LBP) is a 58-60 kD serum glycoprotein which participates in the LPS-dependent activation of myeloid, endothelial, and epithelial cells. It does so by first
5 binding to LPS to form a high affinity LPS:LBP complex (Schumann, *et al.*, *Science*,
249:1429, 1990; Tobias, *et al.*, *Am. J. Respir. Cell. Mol. Biol.* 7:239, 1992). The complex
then interacts with CD14 to form a LBP:LPS:CD14 complex. CD14 is present *in vivo* in
two forms. Myeloid cells express a glycerophosphorylinositol-tailed, membrane-bound
form of CD14 (mCD14). Binding of LPS to mCD14 is promoted by LBP and results in
10 cell activation (Tobias, *et al.*, *J. Immunol.* 150:3011, 1993; Ulevitch and Tobias, *Curr.*
Opin. Immunol., 6:125, 1993). Additionally, a soluble form of CD14 without the glycerophosphorylinositol-tail (sCD14) circulates in the plasma. LBP also promotes the
formation of LPS:sCD14 complexes. The LPS:sCD14 complexes then react with as yet
unidentified receptors on epithelial cells resulting in cell activation (Frey, *et al.*, *J. Exp.*
15 *Med.*, 176:1665, 1992; Pugin, *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 90:2744, 1993). Thus,
it appears that LBP has at least two functions, formation of an LPS:LBP complex and
promotion of the formation of an LPS:CD14 complex.

It is desirable to inhibit LPS:LBP:CD14 complex formation or inhibit the LPS:LBP
complex from transferring LPS to CD14 to form an LPS:CD14 complex. The present
20 invention provides polypeptides of LBP which bind to LPS, but prevents the LPS:LBP
complex from promoting the formation of an LPS:CD14 complex and prevents LPS
transfer to CD14 and also polypeptides of LBP which inhibit the binding of LPS:LBP
complex to CD14.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is based on the unexpected discovery that a first specific region of the lipopolysaccharide (LPS) binding protein (LBP) is involved in binding to LPS, but lacks the ability to promote the formation of a LPS:LBP:CD14 complex. Thus, the
5 present invention provides a first polypeptide of LBP which, like native LBP, retains the ability to bind to LPS, but, unlike native LBP, does not have the ability to promote the formation of an LPS:CD14 complex.

The invention also provides a second specific region of LBP which, in contrast to the first polypeptides, does not bind to LPS, but binds to CD14. Thus, this second polypeptide
10 of LBP can inhibit the interaction of LPS:LBP complex with CD14.

In the first embodiment of the invention, the amino acid sequence of the polypeptides of LBP is provided. Due to its ability to bind and form a complex with LPS, the first polypeptide of LBP is useful in an assay to detect LPS endotoxin in a sample.

The invention also provides a method of ameliorating sepsis or the symptoms of sepsis
15 in a subject, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of polypeptide of LBP or antibody to the polypeptide of LBP. In addition, an antibiotic, anti-tumor necrosis factor (TNF) antibody or both, can be administered to the subject.

Finally, the invention provides a therapeutic composition comprising a polypeptide of LPS binding protein which inhibits the binding of an LPS:LBP complex to CD14.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGURE 1 shows an SDS-PAGE analysis of the purification of the amino terminal amino acids of LBP (NH-LBP). The left panel is a Coomassie-stained gel. The right panel shows a Western blot of an equivalent gel using polyclonal goat antiserum to human LBP.

5 Lanes 1 and 5 show supernatant from untransfected cells; lanes 2 and 6 show supernatant from NH-LBP transfected cells; lanes 3 and 7 show NH-LBP partially purified by Bio-Rex 70 chromatography; and lanes 4 and 8 show human LBP.

FIGURE 2 shows a functional analysis of NH-LBP using ^{125}I -ASD-LPS (2-(p-azidosalicylamido) ethyl-1,3'-dithiopropionate) labeling. Reaction mixtures contained

10 LBP at 0.5×10^{-8} M and/or sCD14 at 9×10^{-8} M as indicated by (+). The concentrations of NH-LBP indicated in the figure are in units of 10^{-8} M. For lanes 1-9, all components were mixed with the ^{125}I -ASD-LPS added last. For lanes 10-12, the ^{125}I -ASD-LPS and NH-LBP were incubated for 10 min at room temperature before addition of the LBP and sCD14.

15 FIGURE 3A shows FACS analysis of FITC-LPS binding to hCD14-CHO cells. 1, cells alone; 2, FITC-LPS plus NH-LBP with cells; 3, FITC-LPS plus LBP with cells; 4, FITC-LPS plus NH-LBP plus LBP with cells.

FIGURE 3B shows inhibition of FITC-LPS binding to hCD14-CHO cells by NH-LBP. hCD14-CHO cells were mixed with FITC-LPS (5 ng/ml) in the presence of the indicated

20 concentrations of NH-LBP with (\square) or without (\circ) LBP (100 ng/ml).

FIGURE 4 shows the inhibition of LPS-initiated rabbit PEM activation by NH-LBP. Results are shown as TNF (Units/ml) for LBP and LBP+NH-LBP.

FIGURES 5a, b, and c show the nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequence of human LBP (SEQ ID NO: 8).

FIGURE 6 shows the nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 1-197 of human LBP (SEQ ID NO: 1 and 2).

FIGURES 7a and b show the nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 198-481 of human LBP (SEQ ID NO: 6 and 7).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The formation of a complex of lipopolysaccharide (LPS) and a full length lipopolysaccharide binding protein (LBP) polypeptide promotes the interaction of the LPS complex with either the soluble form of cell surface marker CD14 (sCD14) or membrane bound CD14 (mCD14). LPS:LBP complexes activate mononuclear blood cells by binding to the mCD14, triggering the production of cytokines for activation of endothelial cells. The present invention provides a "first polypeptide of LBP" or "first LBP polypeptide" which binds to LPS, but does not retain the ability to promote the association of a LPS with CD14, since the first polypeptide lacks that region of the LBP which has been now identified as being responsible for binding of the LPS:LBP complex to CD14. The polypeptide region of native or full-length LBP which is responsible for interaction with CD14 is noted herein as the "second polypeptide of LBP" or "second LBP polypeptide".

In a first embodiment, the invention provides an isolated first polypeptide of LBP with an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, a second polypeptide with an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:7 and functional fragments of the first and second polypeptides. The term "isolated" as used herein refers to polypeptide of LBP which is substantially free of other proteins, lipids, carbohydrates or other materials with which it is naturally associated. One skilled in the art can purify polypeptide of LBP using standard techniques for protein purification. The substantially pure first polypeptide will yield a single major band of about 27,000 daltons on a non-reducing polyacrylamide gel, whereas the second polypeptide has a single major band of about 31,000 daltons on a non-reducing polyacrylamide gel.

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The first and second LBP polypeptide of the invention include "functional fragments" of the polypeptide, as long as the activity of the LBP polypeptide remains. Smaller peptides containing the biological activity of LBP polypeptides specifically exemplified herein are included in the invention.

5 The first LBP polypeptide of the invention refers to a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and consists of amino terminal residues 1-197 of the native LBP. The present invention has identified the amino terminal region of LBP as having the LPS binding region, while the remaining carboxy terminal region (also noted herein as the second LBP polypeptide of the invention) is responsible for either transferring LPS
10 to sCD14 or for forming a complex between LBP:LPS and CD14. Therefore, functional fragments of SEQ ID NO:2 include those amino terminal fragments which retain the ability to bind to LPS and which prevent LPS from associating with native LBP. An assay for determining whether a particular fragment of interest retains the functional activity of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2 is described in Example 2 of the present
15 application. Briefly, functional fragments of SEQ ID NO:7 include those carboxy terminal fragments which retain the ability to inhibit the transfer of LPS to sCD14 or to inhibit the interaction or association of LPS:LBP complex with CD14.

One of skill in the art is able to determine whether a particular fragment of interest has the functional activity of the polypeptide of the invention. For example, the assay outlined
20 in Example 2 could be used to determine whether a polypeptide of interest has the ability to bind to LPS, but not CD14, or whether a polypeptide blocks LBP-LPS interaction. The ability of an amino terminal polypeptide of LBP to inhibit fluorescein-labeled LPS (FITC-LPS) binding to CD14 expressing cells can easily be assessed by FACS analysis. A second assay described in Example 2 utilizes a photoactivatable derivative of LPS which,
25 upon photolysis, radioiodinates proteins to which it binds. Other labels and methods of assaying for functional equivalents of the polypeptides of the invention will be known to those of skill in the art.

The invention also provides polynucleotides encoding the LBP polypeptides of the invention. These polynucleotides include DNA, cDNA and RNA sequences which encode the LBP polypeptide. Therefore, the sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 and 6, also includes those sequences where T (thymidine) is U (uracil) and nucleic acid sequences complementary to the sequence ID's shown herein. It is understood that all polynucleotides encoding all or a portion of LBP polypeptide are also included herein, as long as they encode a polypeptide with the activity of first LBP polypeptide or second LBP polypeptide, e.g., bind to LPS. Such polynucleotides include naturally occurring, synthetic, and intentionally manipulated polynucleotides. For example, LBP polypeptide polynucleotide may be subjected to site-directed mutagenesis. The polynucleotide sequence for LBP polypeptide also includes antisense sequences. The polynucleotides of the invention include sequences that are degenerate as a result of the genetic code. There are 20 natural amino acids, most of which are specified by more than one codon. Therefore, all degenerate nucleotide sequences are included in the invention as long as the amino acid sequence of the LBP polypeptide encoded by the nucleotide sequence is functionally unchanged.

Minor modifications of the recombinant LBP polypeptide primary amino acid sequence may result in polypeptides which have substantially equivalent activity as compared to the first or second LBP polypeptides described herein. Such modifications may be deliberate, as by site-directed mutagenesis, or may be spontaneous. All of the polypeptides produced by these modifications are included herein as long as the biological activity of first or second LBP polypeptide still exists. Further, deletion of one or more amino acids can also result in a modification of the structure of the resultant molecule without significantly altering its biological activity. This can lead to the development of a smaller active molecule which would have broader utility. For example, one can remove amino or carboxy terminal amino acids which will not affect or are not required for LBP polypeptide biological activity.

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The nucleotide sequence encoding the LBP polypeptides of the invention includes the disclosed sequences and conservative variations thereof. The term "conservative variation" as used herein denotes the replacement of an amino acid residue by another, biologically similar residue. Examples of conservative variations include the substitution
5 of one hydrophobic residue such as isoleucine, valine, leucine or methionine for another, or the substitution of one polar residue for another, such as the substitution of arginine for lysine, glutamic for aspartic acids, or glutamine for asparagine, and the like. The term "conservative variation" also includes the use of a substituted amino acid in place of an unsubstituted parent amino acid provided that antibodies raised to the substituted
10 polypeptide also immunoreact with the unsubstituted polypeptide.

DNA sequences of the invention can be obtained by several methods. For example, the DNA can be isolated using hybridization techniques which are well known in the art. These include, but are not limited to: 1) hybridization of genomic or cDNA libraries with probes to detect homologous nucleotide sequences and 2) antibody screening of
15 expression libraries to detect cloned DNA fragments with shared structural features.

Preferably the LBP polypeptide polynucleotide of the invention is derived from a mammalian organism, and most preferably from a mouse, rat, or human. Screening procedures which rely on nucleic acid hybridization make it possible to isolate any gene sequence from any organism, provided the appropriate probe is available.
20 Oligonucleotide probes, which correspond to a part of the sequence encoding the polypeptide in question, can be synthesized chemically. This requires that short, oligopeptide stretches of amino acid sequence must be known. The DNA sequence encoding the protein can be deduced from the genetic code, however, the degeneracy of the code must be taken into account. It is possible to perform a mixed addition reaction
25 when the sequence is degenerate. This includes a heterogeneous mixture of denatured double-stranded DNA. For such screening, hybridization is preferably performed on either single-stranded DNA or denatured double-stranded DNA. Hybridization is particularly useful in the detection of cDNA clones derived from sources where an

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extremely low amount of mRNA sequences relating to the polypeptide of interest are present. In other words, by using stringent hybridization conditions directed to avoid non-specific binding, it is possible, for example, to allow the autoradiographic visualization of a specific cDNA clone by the hybridization of the target DNA to that single probe in the mixture which is its complete complement (Wallace, *et al.*, *Nucl. Acid Res.*, 9:879, 1981; Ausubel, *et al.*, *ed.*, *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, 1989).

The development of specific DNA sequences encoding LBP polypeptide of the invention can also be obtained by: 1) isolation of double-stranded DNA sequences from the genomic DNA; 2) chemical manufacture of a DNA sequence to provide the necessary codons for the polypeptide of interest; and 3) *in vitro* synthesis of a double-stranded DNA sequence by reverse transcription of mRNA isolated from a eukaryotic donor cell. In the latter case, a double-stranded DNA complement of mRNA is eventually formed which is generally referred to as cDNA. In addition, the LBP polypeptides of the invention can be obtained by polymerase chain reaction (PCR).

Of the above-noted methods for developing specific DNA sequences for use in recombinant procedures, the isolation of genomic DNA isolates is the least common. This is especially true when it is desirable to obtain the microbial expression of mammalian polypeptides due to the presence of introns.

The synthesis of DNA sequences is frequently the method of choice when the entire sequence of amino acid residues of the desired polypeptide product is known. When the entire sequence of amino acid residues of the desired polypeptide is not known, the direct synthesis of DNA sequences is not possible and the method of choice is the synthesis of cDNA sequences. Among the standard procedures for isolating cDNA sequences of interest is the formation of plasmid- or phage-carrying cDNA libraries which are derived from reverse transcription of mRNA which is abundant in donor cells that have a high level of genetic expression. When used in combination with polymerase chain reaction technology, even rare expression products can be cloned. In those cases where significant

portions of the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide are known, the production of labeled single or double-stranded DNA or RNA probe sequences duplicating a sequence putatively present in the target cDNA may be employed in DNA/DNA hybridization procedures which are carried out on cloned copies of the cDNA which have been
5 denatured into a single-stranded form (Jay, *et al.*, *Nucl. Acid Res.*, 11:2325, 1983).

A cDNA expression library, such as lambda gt11, can be screened indirectly for LBP polypeptide having at least one epitope, using antibodies specific for the LBP polypeptide. Such antibodies can be either polyclonally or monoclonally derived and used to detect expression product indicative of the presence of LBP polypeptide cDNA.

10 DNA sequences encoding LBP polypeptide of the invention can be expressed *in vitro* by DNA transfer into a suitable host cell. "Host cells" are cells in which a vector can be propagated and its DNA expressed. The term also includes any progeny of the subject host cell. It is understood that all progeny may not be identical to the parental cell since there may be mutations that occur during replication. However, such progeny are
15 included when the term "host cell" is used. Methods of stable transfer, meaning that the foreign DNA is continuously maintained in the host, are known in the art.

In the present invention, the LBP polypeptide polynucleotide sequences may be inserted into a recombinant expression vector. The term "recombinant expression vector" refers to a plasmid, virus or other vehicle known in the art that has been manipulated by
20 insertion or incorporation of the LBP genetic sequences. Such expression vectors contain a promoter sequence which facilitates the efficient transcription of the inserted genetic sequence of the host. The expression vector typically contains an origin of replication, a promoter, as well as specific genes which allow phenotypic selection of the transformed cells. Vectors suitable for use in the present invention include, but are not limited to the
25 T7-based expression vector for expression in bacteria (Rosenberg, *et al.*, *Gene*, 56:125, 1987), the pMSXND expression vector for expression in mammalian cells (Lee and Nathans, *J. Biol. Chem.*, 263:3521, 1988) and baculovirus-derived vectors for expression

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in insect cells. The DNA segment can be present in the vector operably linked to regulatory elements, for example, a promoter (e.g., T7, metallothionein I, or polyhedrin promoters).

5 Polynucleotide sequences encoding LBP polypeptides of the invention can be expressed in either prokaryotes or eukaryotes. Hosts can include microbial, yeast, insect and mammalian organisms. Methods of expressing DNA sequences having eukaryotic or viral sequences in prokaryotes are well known in the art. Biologically functional viral and plasmid DNA vectors capable of expression and replication in a host are known in the art. Such vectors are used to incorporate DNA sequences of the invention.

10 Transformation of a host cell with recombinant DNA may be carried out by conventional techniques as are well known to those skilled in the art. Where the host is prokaryotic, such as *E. coli*, competent cells which are capable of DNA uptake can be prepared from cells harvested after exponential growth phase and subsequently treated by the CaCl_2 method using procedures well known in the art. Alternatively, MgCl_2 or RbCl can be
15 used. Transformation can also be performed after forming a protoplast of the host cell if desired.

When the host is a eukaryote, such methods of transfection of DNA as calcium phosphate co-precipitates, conventional mechanical procedures such as microinjection, electroporation, insertion of a plasmid encased in liposomes, or virus vectors may be
20 used. Eukaryotic cells can also be cotransformed with DNA sequences encoding the LBP polypeptides of the invention, and a second foreign DNA molecule encoding a selectable phenotype, such as the herpes simplex thymidine kinase gene. Another method is to use a eukaryotic viral vector, such as simian virus 40 (SV40) or bovine papilloma virus, to transiently infect or transform eukaryotic cells and express the protein. (see for example,
25 *Eukaryotic Viral Vectors*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Gluzman ed., 1982).

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Isolation and purification of microbial expressed polypeptide, or fragments thereof, provided by the invention, may be carried out by conventional means including preparative chromatography and immunological separations involving monoclonal or polyclonal antibodies.

5 The invention includes antibodies which bind to LBP polypeptides or functional fragments thereof. Antibody which consists essentially of pooled monoclonal antibodies with different epitopic specificities, as well as distinct monoclonal antibody preparations are provided. Monoclonal antibodies are made from antigen containing fragments of the protein by methods well known to those skilled in the art (Kohler, *et al.*, *Nature*, 256:495,
10 1975). The term antibody as used in this invention is meant to include intact molecules as well as fragments thereof, such as Fab and F(ab')₂, which are capable of binding an epitopic determinant on LBP polypeptide. An antibody to LBP polypeptide of the invention would bind within the amino terminal sequence of first LBP polypeptide and prevent LPS from forming a complex with LBP or from forming a complex with CD14.
15 Therefore, the antibody to first LBP polypeptide competitively inhibits the binding of LPS binding protein to LPS or LPS:LBP binding protein complex to CD14.

Likewise, antibody to the second LBP polypeptide of the invention would inhibit the binding of LPS:LBP complex to CD14 by blocking the interaction between the CD14 binding region of native LBP and CD14.

20 It is also possible to use anti-idiotypic technology to produce monoclonal antibodies which mimic an epitope. For example, an anti-idiotypic monoclonal antibody made to a first monoclonal antibody will have a binding domain in the hypervariable region which is the "image" of the epitope bound by the first monoclonal antibody. Thus, in the present invention, an anti-idiotypic antibody produced from an antibody which binds to a LBP
25 polypeptide as in SEQ ID NO:2, or a synthetic peptide of SEQ ID NO:2, can act as a competitive inhibitor for a site on full length, native LBP which is required for binding to LPS, thereby preventing LPS from forming a complex with or being transferred to

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CD14 and thereby preventing activation of monocytes and other cells. Alternatively, an anti-idiotypic antibody produced from an antibody which binds to an LBP polypeptide as in SEQ ID NO:7, or a synthetic peptide of SEQ ID NO:7 can act as a competitive inhibitor for a site on full length, native LBP which is required for binding of LPS:LBP complex with CD14.

The antibodies of the invention can be used in any subject in which it is desirable to administer *in vitro* or *in vivo* immunodiagnosis or immunotherapy. The antibodies of the invention are suited for use, for example, in immunoassays in which they can be utilized in liquid phase or bound to a solid phase carrier.

In addition, the antibodies in these immunoassays can be detectably labeled in various ways. Examples of types of immunoassays which can utilize antibodies of the invention are competitive and non-competitive immunoassays in either a direct or indirect format. Examples of such immunoassays are the radioimmunoassay (RIA) and the sandwich (immunometric) assay. Detection of the antigens using the antibodies of the invention can be done utilizing immunoassays which are run in either the forward, reverse, or simultaneous modes, including immunohistochemical assays on physiological samples. A technique which may result in greater sensitivity consists of coupling the antibodies to low molecular weight haptens. These haptens can then be specifically detected by means of a second reaction. For example, it is common to use such haptens as biotin, which reacts with avidin, or dinitrophenyl, puridoxal, and fluorescein, which can react with specific antihapten antibodies. Those of skill in the art will know, or can readily discern, other immunoassay formats without undue experimentation.

The presence of LPS endotoxin secreted by gram-negative bacteria, for example, can be detected *in vitro* in a liquid body sample or other aqueous body sample that is suspected of containing LPS. Exemplary body samples include blood, serum, plasma, saliva, urine, and cerebrospinal fluid. Blood, serum and plasma are preferred body samples.

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The body sample suspected of containing LPS is admixed with an LBP polypeptide as described to form an admixture. In the case of LBP first polypeptide, the admixture is maintained for an amount of time sufficient for the LBP polypeptide to react and form a complex with the LPS endotoxin present in the sample, for example about 10 minutes.

5 It is well known in the art that the incubation time is a function of the amount of both the LBP and LPS in the admixture, with lower amounts typically requiring longer incubation times. Therefore, about 5 minutes to about 3 hours and preferably about 10 minutes to about 30 minutes is typical. The presence of the complex formed between the admixed first LBP polypeptide and LPS endotoxin is determined. The first LBP polypeptide is

10 preferably labeled with a means for indicating the formation of the complex and the amount of complex formed.

There are many different labels and methods of labeling known to those of ordinary skill in the art. Examples of the types of labels which can be used in the present invention include enzymes, radioisotopes, fluorescent compounds, colloidal metals,

15 chemiluminescent compounds, phosphorescent compounds, and bioluminescent compounds. Enzyme labels and their substrates include horseradish peroxidase and hydrogen peroxide and an oxidative dye precursor such as o-phenylenediamine and alkaline phosphatase typically used with p-nitrophenyl phosphate. Exemplary radioisotopes include ^3H and ^{125}I . Those of ordinary skill in the art will know of other

20 suitable labels for binding to the antibody, or will be able to ascertain such, using routine experimentation.

Useful solid matrices which can be used in an *in vitro* detection method of the invention include such materials as cross-linked dextran (SEPHADEX), agarose, glass beads, nitrocellulose, or the wells of a microtiter plate such as those made from polystyrene or

25 polyvinyl chloride.

In using a first LBP polypeptide of the invention for the *in vivo* detection of LPS, the detectably labeled LBP is given a dose which is diagnostically effective. The term

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"diagnostically effective" means that the amount of detectably labeled LBP polypeptide is administered in sufficient quantity to enable detection of the site having LPS.

In addition, a monoclonal antibody that binds to first or second LBP polypeptide could be used to detect LBP:LPS complexes in a subject.

- 5 The concentration of detectably labeled monoclonal antibody or first LBP polypeptide which is administered should be sufficient such that the binding to those cells having LPS or soluble LPS is detectable compared to the background. Further, it is desirable that the detectably labeled antibody or first LBP polypeptide be rapidly cleared from the circulatory system in order to give the best target-to-background signal ratio.
- 10 As a rule, the dosage of detectably labeled monoclonal antibody or first LBP polypeptide for *in vivo* diagnosis will vary depending on such factors as age, sex, and extent of disease of the individual. Such dosages may vary, for example, depending on whether multiple injections are given, LPS or antigenic burden, and other factors known to those of skill in the art.
- 15 For *in vivo* diagnostic imaging, the type of detection instrument available is a major factor in selecting a given radioisotope. The radioisotope chosen must have a type of decay which is detectable for a given type of instrument. Still another important factor in selecting a radioisotope for *in vivo* diagnosis is that deleterious radiation with respect to the host is minimized. Ideally, a radioisotope used for *in vivo* imaging will lack a particle
- 20 emission, but produce a large number of photons in the 140-250 keV range, which may readily be detected by conventional gamma cameras.
- For *in vivo* diagnosis radioisotopes may be bound to the antibody or first LBP polypeptide either directly or indirectly by using an intermediate functional group. Intermediate functional groups which often are used to bind radioisotopes which exist as metallic ions
- 25 to immunoglobulins are the bifunctional chelating agents such as diethylene-

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triaminepentacetic acid (DTPA) and ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) and similar molecules. Typical examples of metallic ions which can be bound to the antibodies or polypeptides of the invention are ^{111}In , ^{97}Ru , ^{67}Ga , ^{68}Ga , ^{72}As , ^{89}Zr , and ^{201}Tl .

5 The first LBP polypeptide or antibody to first or second LBP polypeptide of the invention can also be labeled with a paramagnetic isotope for purposes of *in vivo* diagnosis, as in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or electron spin resonance (ESR). In general, any conventional method for visualizing diagnostic imaging can be utilized. Usually gamma and positron emitting radioisotopes are used for camera imaging and paramagnetic isotopes for MRI. Elements which are particularly useful in such techniques include
10 ^{157}Gd , ^{55}Mn , ^{162}Dy , ^{52}Cr , and ^{56}Fe .

The invention provides a method of ameliorating sepsis or one or more of the symptoms of sepsis comprising administering to a subject displaying symptoms of sepsis or at risk for developing sepsis, a therapeutically effective amount of first or second LBP polypeptide or antibody that binds to first or second LBP polypeptide. Such symptoms
15 which may be ameliorated include those associated with a transient increase in the blood level of TNF, such as fever, hypotension, neutropenia, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia, disseminated intravascular coagulation, adult respiratory distress syndrome, shock and multiple organ failure. Patients who require such treatment include those at risk for or those suffering from toxemia, such as endotoxemia resulting from a gram-negative
20 bacterial infection, venom poisoning, or hepatic failure, for example. In addition, patients having a gram-positive bacterial, viral or fungal infection may display symptoms of sepsis and may benefit from such a therapeutic method as described herein. Those patients who are more particularly able to benefit from the method of the invention are those suffering from infection by *E. coli*, *Haemophilus influenzae* B, *Neisseria meningitidis*,
25 staphylococci, or pneumococci. Patients at risk for sepsis include those suffering from burns, gunshot wounds, renal or hepatic failure.

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The term "therapeutically effective amount" as used herein refers to the amount of either first or second LBP polypeptide, antibody to first or second LBP polypeptide or anti-idiotypic antibody which binds a paratope of an antibody which binds to the amino acid sequence of first or second LBP polypeptide, such as in SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:7, used in sufficient quantity to decrease the subject's response to LPS and decrease the symptoms of sepsis. The term "therapeutically effective" therefore includes that amount of first or second LBP polypeptide, antibody to first or second LBP polypeptide or anti-idiotypic antibody to such antibody sufficient to prevent, and preferably reduce by at least 50%, and more preferably sufficient to reduce by 90%, a clinically significant increase in the plasma level of TNF. The dosage ranges for the administration of the first or second LBP polypeptide, antibody to first or second LBP polypeptide antibody, or anti-idiotypic antibody to such antibody of the invention are those large enough to produce the desired effect. Generally, the dosage will vary with the age, condition, sex, and extent of the infection with bacteria or other agent as described above, in the patient and can be determined by one skilled in the art. The dosage can be adjusted by the individual physician in the event of any contraindications. In any event, the effectiveness of treatment can be determined by monitoring the level of LPS and TNF in a patient. An decrease in serum LPS and TNF levels should correlate with recovery of the patient.

In addition, patients at risk for or exhibiting the symptoms of sepsis can be treated by the method as described above, further comprising administering, substantially simultaneously with the therapeutic administration of a first or second LBP polypeptide, antibody to first or second LBP polypeptide, or anti-idiotypic antibody to such antibody, an inhibitor of TNF, an antibiotic, or both. For example, intervention in the role of TNF in sepsis, either directly or indirectly, such as by use of an anti-TNF antibody and/or a TNF antagonist, can prevent or ameliorate the symptoms of sepsis. Particularly preferred is the use of an anti-TNF antibody as an active ingredient, such as a monoclonal antibody with TNF specificity as described by Tracey, *et al.* (*Nature*, 330:662, 1987).

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A patient who exhibits the symptoms of sepsis may be treated with an antibiotic in addition to the treatment with a first or second LBP polypeptide or antibody of the invention. Typical antibiotics include an aminoglycoside, such as gentamycin or a beta-lactam such as penicillin, or cephalosporin. Therefore, a preferred therapeutic method of the invention includes administering a therapeutically effective amount of first or second LBP polypeptide, antibody to first or second LBP polypeptide, or anti-idiotypic antibody to such antibody, substantially simultaneously with administration of a bactericidal amount of an antibiotic.

The term "bactericidal amount" as used herein refers to an amount sufficient to achieve a bacteria-killing blood concentration in the patient receiving the treatment. The bactericidal amount of antibiotic generally recognized as safe for administration to a human is well known in the art, and as is known in the art, varies with the specific antibiotic and the type of bacterial infection being treated.

Preferably, administration of a first or second LBP polypeptide, or antibody to first or second LBP polypeptide, including anti-idiotypic antibody of the invention, occurs within about 48 hours and preferably within about 2-8 hours, and most preferably, substantially concurrently with administration of the antibiotic.

The method of the invention also envisions treating the patient with a combination of the above described therapies. In other words, a patient may be administered in various combination, first or second LBP polypeptide, or antibody to first or second LBP polypeptide, including anti-idiotypic antibody of the invention, an appropriate antibiotic, and an agent which decreases TNF in the patient, such as anti-TNF antibody.

In another embodiment, the invention provides a therapeutic composition which includes in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, one or more of a first or second LBP polypeptide, antibody which binds first or second LBP polypeptide, or anti-idiotypic antibody which binds a paratope of an antibody which binds to the amino acid sequence

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of a first or second LBP polypeptide, such as in SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:7, respectively. As used herein, the term "pharmaceutically acceptable carrier" means a composition that is physiologically tolerable and does not typically cause an allergic or similar reaction, such as gastric upset or dizziness when administered to the subject.

5 Pharmaceutically acceptable carrier preparations for parenteral administration include sterile or aqueous or non-aqueous solutions, suspensions, and emulsions. Examples of non-aqueous solvents are propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, vegetable oils such as olive oil, and injectable organic esters such as ethyl oleate. Aqueous carriers include water, alcoholic/aqueous solutions, emulsions or suspensions, including saline and
10 buffered media. Parenteral vehicles include sodium chloride solution, Ringer's dextrose, dextrose and sodium chloride, lactated Ringer's, or fixed oils. The active therapeutic ingredient is often mixed with excipients which are pharmaceutically acceptable and compatible with the active ingredient. Suitable excipients include water, saline, dextrose, glycerol and ethanol, or combinations thereof. Intravenous vehicles include fluid and
15 nutrient replenishers, electrolyte replenishers, such as those based on Ringer's dextrose, and the like. Preservatives and other additives may also be present such as, for example, antimicrobials, anti-oxidants, chelating agents, and inert gases and the like.

In addition, the therapeutic composition may further include an effective amount of one or more of the following active ingredients: at least one antibiotic, a steroid, an anti-TNF
20 antibody and a TNF antagonist.

A polypeptide or antibody of the invention can be formulated into the therapeutic composition as neutralized pharmaceutically acceptable salt forms. These include the acid addition salts (formed with the free amino groups of the polypeptide or antibody molecule) and which are formed with inorganic acids such as, for example, hydrochloric or phosphoric acid, or organic acids such as acetic, oxalic, tartaric and the like. Salts also
25 include those formed from inorganic bases such as, for example, sodium, potassium,

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ammonium, calcium or ferric hydroxides, and organic bases such as isopropylamine, trimethylamine, histidine, procaine and the like.

The following examples are intended to illustrate but not limit the invention. While they are typical of those that might be used, other procedures known to those skilled in the art may alternatively be used.

EXAMPLE 1

PRODUCTION OF LIPOPOLYSACCHARIDE (LPS) BINDING POLYPEPTIDE

The cDNA for the amino-terminal half of human LBP was generated from full-length human LBP cDNA (Schumann, *et al.*, *Science*, 249:1429-1431, 1990) using polymerase chain reaction (PCR). Briefly, oligonucleotide primers with the sequences GTTCTAGACTGCACTGGGAATCTA (SEQ. ID NO:3) and AGGAATTCAAATCTCTGTTGTAAGT (SEQ. ID NO:4) were used. DNA polymerase was used for 20 cycles (94°C, 55°C, and 72°C for 1 min each) in an automated temperature cycler. The band corresponding to the half-molecule of LBP was purified by gel electrophoresis and ligated into the pEE14 vector (Bebbington and Hentschel, 1987) with *Xba*I and *Eco*RI sites. Analysis of the resultant DNA by restriction mapping (*Eco*RI, *Xba*I, *Bam*HI, *Cla*I, and *Nar*I) yielded fragments of the expected size.

CHO-K1 cells were transfected with this construct using calcium phosphate precipitation (Sambrook, *et al.*, *Molecular Cloning*, pp. 16.01-16.81, 1989, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY). Cells expressing the truncated LBP, hereafter referred to as NH-LBP, were selected using methionine sulfoximine at 50 μ m for 2 weeks, followed by increasing methionine sulfoximine to 200 μ m for 2 months (Bebbington and Hentschel, *DNA Cloning*, Vol III, 163-188, 1987, IRL Press, Washington, D.C.).

Purification of NH-LBP was accomplished by ion exchange chromatography on Bio-Rex 70 and PL-Sax (in place of Mono Q) resins as described for human LBP (Schumann, *et al., supra*). The progress of the purification was monitored using Western blotting with polyclonal goat anti-human LBP as the detecting reagent followed by peroxidase-conjugated rabbit anti-goat IgG. The polyclonal goat anti-human LBP was prepared by immunization of a goat with human LBP expressed in an SF-9/baculovirus system (Summers and Smith, *A Manual of Methods for Baculovirus Vectors and Insect Cell Culture Procedures*, pp 1-57, 1988). A recombinant baculovirus containing the coding sequence for human LBP (Schumann, *et al., supra*) was used to infect the SF-9 cells. The expressed recombinant human LBP was purified as described above for NH-LBP.

Serum-free culture supernatants from CHO cells transfected with the NH-LBP construct showed evidence of NH-LBP expression by virtue of exhibiting an extra band in SDS-PAGE which stained positively with anti-human LBP IgG in Western blotting (FIGURE 1). FIGURE 1 shows an SDS-PAGE analysis of the purification of NH-LBP. The left panel is a Coomassie-stained gel. The right panel shows a Western blot of an equivalent gel using polyclonal goat antiserum to human LBP. Lanes 1 and 5 show supernatant from untransfected cells; lanes 2 and 6 show supernatant from NH-LBP transfected cells; lanes 3 and 7 show NH-LBP partially purified by Bio-Rex 70 chromatography; and lanes 4 and 8 show human LBP.

After isolation, using immunoreactivity with anti-human LBP in Western blotting to monitor the purification, the putative NH-LBP had an apparent molecular weight of 27,000 by SDS-PAGE, in reasonable agreement with the value of 21,660 calculated from the nucleic acid sequence of the cDNA. Amino-terminal microsequencing yielded ANPGL (SEQ ID NO:5) for the protein, in agreement with the amino-terminal sequence of human LBP. Finally, the cDNA construct yielded restriction fragments of the predicted size when digested with *EcoRI*, *XbaI*, *BamHI*, *Clai*, and *NarI*. Thus, the isolated expressed protein had the sequence deduced from the constructed cDNA, NH-LBP.

EXAMPLE 2LBP POLYPEPTIDE BLOCKS LPS BINDING TO CD14

The ability of NH-LBP to promote or inhibit fluorescein-labeled LPS (FITC-LPS) binding to human CD14 expressing CHO cells (hCD14-CHO) was assessed by FACS analysis. FITC-LPS was prepared from *Salmonella minnesota Re595* LPS (Galanos, *et al.*, *Eur. J. Biochem.*, 9:245-249, 1969) and fluorescein isothiocyanate as described (Skelly, *et al.*, *Infect. Immun.*, 23:287-293, 1979). hCD14-CHO cells (Kirkland, *et al.*, *J. Biochem.*, 268:24818-24823, 1993) (2×10^5 /ml) were incubated with 5 ng/ml FITC-LPS for 30 min at 22°C in Hank's balanced salt solution containing 0.3% bovine serum albumin before FACS analysis. Rabbit LBP (Tobias, *et al.*, *J. Exp. Med.* 164:77, 1986) or NH-LBP were added prior to addition of FITC-LPS. Quantitative estimation of the relative affinities of NH-LBP and LBP for FITC-LPS was accomplished as follows. From the definitions of the dissociation constants for LPS-NH-LBP and LPS-LBP complex formation and the fact that LPS is common to the two reactions one may write

15 $K_{NH}[LPS:NH-LBP]/[NH-LBP] = K_{LBP}[LPS:LBP]/[LBP]$. When $[LPS:NH-LBP] = [LPS:LBP]$, which occurs when NH-LBP inhibits 50% of the binding of FITC-LPS to hCD14-CHO cells, then $K_{NH}/K_{LBP} = [NH-LBP]/[LBP]$.

Direct evidence for the interaction of LPS with NH-LPS with NH-LBP was assessed with the use of ^{125}I -ASD-LPS (ASD = 2 - (p-azidosalicylamido) ethyl -1,3'-dithiopropionate). ^{125}I -ASD-LPS was prepared and photolyzed as previously described (Tobias, *et al.*, *supra*, 1986). Aliquots of each reaction mixture were analyzed on 12% SDS-PAGE, revealing the ^{125}I -labeled proteins by autoradiography. Labeled bands were identified by comparison of their mobilities with purified NH-LBP, LBP, or sCD14.

20

In a direct test of NH-LBP binding to LPS, NH-LBP was exposed to ^{125}I -ASD-LPS, a photoactivatable derivative of LPS which, upon photolysis, radioiodinates proteins to which it binds (Wollenweber and Morrison, *J. Biol. Chem.*, 260:15068, 1985): FIGURE 2 shows a functional analysis of NH-LBP using ^{125}I -ASD-LPS labeling. Reaction

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5 mixtures contained LBP at 0.5×10^{-8} M and/or sCD14 at 9×10^{-8} M as indicated by (+). The concentrations of NH-LBP indicated in the figure are in units of 10^{-8} M. For lanes 1-9, all components were mixed with the ^{125}I -ASD-LPS added last. For lanes 10-12, the ^{125}I -ASD-LPS and NH-LBP were incubated for 10 min at room temperature before addition of the LBP and sCD14. The complete reaction mixtures were incubated for 5 min at room temperature before photolysis for 2 min on ice.

10 When NH-LBP was incubated with ^{125}I -ASD-LPS, photolyzed, and subjected to SDS-PAGE, the ^{125}I band revealed by autoradiography had an apparent molecular weight of 27,000 and co-migrated with NH-LBP in the same gel as revealed by Coomassie Blue staining (FIGURE 2, lanes 2 and 3). As shown in FIGURE 2 (lane 1) and elsewhere (Schumann, *et al.*, *supra*, 1990), LBP behaves similarly toward ^{125}I -ASD-LPS. Thus, like LBP, NH-LBP is capable of binding ^{125}I -ASD-LPS.

15 Although NH-LBP is capable of binding LPS, it is unable to promote the binding of LPS to either sCD14 or mCD14. Several different experiments shown in FIGURES 2 and 3 support this conclusion. When LBP and sCD14 are co-incubated with ^{125}I -ASD-LPS for 5 min at room temperature, both the LBP and sCD14 become labeled (FIGURE 2, lane 4), although in the absence of LBP, sCD14 is not labeled in this time period. However, in mixtures of NH-LBP and sCD14 with ^{125}I -ASD-LPS, only NH-LBP becomes labeled, even when NH-LBP is present at 10 times the LBP concentration which leads to sCD14 labeling (FIGURE 2, lanes 5 and 6). Thus, NH-LBP does not enable ^{125}I -ASD-LPS to bind to sCD14.

20 Studies were also done to determine whether NH-LBP could successfully compete with LBP for ^{125}I -ASD-LPS and inhibit labeling of sCD14. When NH-LBP and LBP were co-incubated with ^{125}I -ASD-LPS before addition of LBP and sCD14, NH-LBP was able to inhibit ^{125}I -ASD-LPS labeling of sCD14, as seen by comparing lanes 6-12 with lane 4 of FIGURE 2. Preincubation of NH-LBP with ^{125}I -ASD-LPS was more inhibitory than co-incubation of NH-LBP and LBP with ^{125}I -ASD-LPS (compare FIGURE 2, lanes 10-12

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with 7-9). Judging by the slightly greater intensity of the radiolabeled NH-LBP than the radiolabeled LBP in lane 9 (FIGURE 2), one might estimate that the affinity of NH-LBP for ^{125}I -ASD-LPS is 50-100 fold less than the affinity of LBP for ^{125}I -ASD-LPS. The affinity of LBP for Re595 LPS, used to prepare ^{125}I -ASD-LPS, is estimated at 1×10^{-9} M (Tobias, *et al.*, *J. Biol. Chem.* 264:10867, 1989).

The aforementioned properties of NH-LBP are not limited to ^{125}I -ASD-LPS binding to sCD14 but can also be seen with membrane-bound CD14. CHO cells were transfected with a plasmid bearing the cDNA for human mCD14 and characterized the resulting cells (hCD14-CHO) as expressing a glycerophosphorylinositol-bound form of human CD14 (Kirkland, *et al.*, *supra*, 1993). The binding of [^3H]LPS to these cells has recently been described (Kirkland, *et al.*, *supra*, 1993). FIGURE 3 shows A, FACS analysis of FITC-LPS binding to hCD14-CHO cells. Peak 1 shows cells alone; 2, FITC-LPS plus NH-LBP with cells; 3, FITC-LPS plus LBP with cells; 4, FITC-LPS plus NH-LBP plus LBP with cells. FIGURE 3B shows inhibition of FITC-LPS binding to hCD14-CHO cells by NH-LBP. hCD14-CHO cells were mixed with FITC-LPS (5 ng/ml) in the presence of the indicated concentrations of NH-LBP with (\square) or without (\circ) LBP (100 ng/ml).

When incubated with FITC-LPS (FIGURE 3A), the hCD14-CHO cells do not bind FITC-LPS unless LBP is added. In this regard, the hCD14-CHO cells display FITC-LPS binding that resembles the binding displayed by peripheral blood monocytes (Heumann, *et al.*, *J. Immunol.*, 148:3505-3512, 1992). Nh-LBP is unable to substitute for LBP and inhibits LBP-assisted FITC-LPS binding (FIGURE 3A). The dose dependency of NH-LBP inhibition is shown in FIGURE 3B. The binding of FITC-LPS to the cells enabled by 100 ng/ml LBP (1.7×10^{-9} M) is 50% inhibited by 250 ng/ml NH-LBP (1.1×10^{-8} M), suggesting that the dissociation constant of NH-LBP·LPS complexes is 6.4-fold larger (i.e., weaker binding) than the dissociation constant for LBP·LPS complexes, estimated to be 1×10^{-9} M (Tobias, *et al.*, 1989). The FACS measurement of FITC-LPS binding to hCD14-CHO cells is more quantitative than the densities of the autoradiogram in FIGURE 2, therefore one might give greater weight to this latter estimate of the relative

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affinities of LBP and NH-LBP for LPS. However, whichever estimate for the affinity of NH-LBP for LPS one accepts, the data suggest that the NH-LBP fragment must retain most of the LPS binding site.

EXAMPLE 3

5 ACTIVATION OF MACROPHAGES BY LBP POLYPEPTIDE

The effect of NH-LBP on macrophage activation was studied using rabbit peritoneal exudate macrophages (PEM). Mineral oil-elicited rabbit PEM were cultured in serum-free medium as described previously (Mathison, *et al.*, *J. Clin. Invest.*, 81:1925-1937, 1988). PEM were cultured in 96-well clusters (100- μ l suspension containing 1×10^5 cells) for 2 h followed by washing to remove nonadherent cells and replenishment with 50 μ l of serum-free medium. To minimize binding of LBP to the polystyrene wells, the culture medium was supplemented with 1% human serum albumin (Miles, Inc., Cutter Biological, Lot 88G04). NH-LBP (1 μ g/ml final concentration) was added to macrophages followed immediately by native purified rabbit LBP (10 ng/ml final concentration) and 1 ng/ml 0111:B4 LPS. After 4 h at 37°C, 5% CO₂, conditioned medium was harvested for assay of tumor necrosis factor cytolytic activity using L929 cells (Mathison, *et al.*, *supra*, 1988).

The aforementioned prompted an examination of the effects of NH-LBP on LPS-induced cell activation by the LBP/CD14-dependent pathway. To do this, the effect of NH-LBP on LPS-dependent activation of rabbit PEM to produce tumor necrosis factor was evaluated. FIGURE 4 shows the inhibition of LPS-initiated rabbit PEM activation by NH-LBP. Results are shown as TNF (Units/ml) for LBP and LBP+NH-LBP.

As shown in FIGURE 4, NH-LBP inhibited the LPS-and LBP-dependent activation of rabbit PEM.

FIGURES 5, 6 and 7 show the nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequence of human LBP, amino acid residues 1-197, and 198-481 of LBP, respectively.

The two functions of LBP, binding LPS and promoting the formation of LPS:CD14 complexes, are therefore, two distinct functions mediated by structurally distinct moieties of LBP. Clearly, the LPS binding function resides largely if not entirely within the NH-
5 LBP fragment. In this regard, the closely related LPS binding proteins LBP and BPI resemble each other since the LPS binding site of BPI has been localized to sequences contained within a 23-kDa truncated form of BPI specifying residues 1-200 (Ooi, *et al.*,
10 *J. Exp. Med.*, 174:649-655, 1991). However, these studies shown in the Examples point out a marked difference between the functional domains of LBP and BPI since the 23-kDa form of BPI not only binds LPS but also defines the region of the molecule responsible for its antibacterial properties. Cholesteryl ester transfer protein, a protein that shows amino acid sequence similarities with both LBP and BPI (Schumann, *et al.*, *supra*, 1990), also appears to have two distinct functional domains. However, the domains specifying
15 the binding sites for cholesteryl esters and phospholipids (Swenson, *et al.*, *J. Biol. Chem.* 263:5150, 1988) have not yet been associated with physically distinct entities.

The above disclosure generally describes the present invention. A more complete understanding can be obtained by reference to the following specific examples which are provided herein for purposes of illustration only and are not intended to limit the scope
20 of the invention.

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SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

- 5 (i) APPLICANT: THE SCRIPPS RESEARCH INSTITUTE
- (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: POLYPEPTIDES OF LIPOPOLYSACCHARIDE
BINDING PROTEIN
- (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 9
- (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
- 10 (A) ADDRESSEE: SPENSLEY HORN JUBAS & LUBITZ
(B) STREET: 1880 CENTURY PARK EAST, FIFTH FLOOR
(C) CITY: LOS ANGELES
(D) STATE: CALIFORNIA
(E) COUNTRY: US
(F) ZIP: 90067
- 15 (v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
- (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
(B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
(C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
(D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.25
- 20 (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
- (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: PCT
(B) FILING DATE: 15-MAR-1995
(C) CLASSIFICATION:
- 25 (viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:
- (A) NAME: HAILE, PH.D., LISA A.
(B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 38,347
(C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: FD-3372
- (ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
- 30 (A) TELEPHONE: 619/455-5100
(B) TELEFAX: 619/455-5110

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(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 620 base pairs

(B) TYPE: nucleic acid

(C) STRANDEDNESS: single

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

5

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:

(B) CLONE: N-terminal LBP

10

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY: CDS

(B) LOCATION: 30..620

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

15	CTCCTGGCCC	ACTGCACTGG	GAATCTAGG	ATG GGG	GCC TTG	GCA AGA	GCC CTG	53	
				Met Gly	Ala Leu	Ala Arg	Ala Leu		
				1		5			
	CCG TCC	ATA CTC	CTC GCA	TTG CTG	CTT ACC	TCC ACC	CCA GAG	GCT CTC	101
	Pro Ser	Ile Leu	Leu Ala	Leu Leu	Leu Leu	Thr Ser	Thr Pro	Glu Ala	Leu
	10		15		20				
20	GGT GCC	AAC CCC	GGC TTG	GTC GCC	AGG ATC	ACC GAC	AAG GGA	CTG CAG	149
	Gly Ala	Asn Pro	Gly Leu	Val Ala	Arg Ile	Thr Asp	Lys Gly	Leu Gln	
	25		30		35		40		
	TAT GCG	GCC CAG	GAG GGG	CTA TTG	GCT CTG	CAG AGT	GAG CTG	CTC AGG	197
	Tyr Ala	Ala Ala	Gln Glu	Gly Leu	Leu Ala	Leu Gln	Ser Glu	Leu Leu	Arg
25			45		50		55		
	ATC ACG	CTG CCT	GAC TTC	ACC GGG	GAC TTG	AGG ATC	CCC CAC	GTC GGC	245
	Ile Thr	Leu Pro	Asp Phe	Thr Gly	Asp Leu	Arg Ile	Pro His	Val Gly	
		60		65		70			
30	CGT GGG	CGC TAT	GAG TTC	CAC AGC	CTG AAC	ATC CAC	AGC TGT	GAG CTG	293
	Arg Gly	Arg Tyr	Glu Phe	His Ser	Leu Asn	Ile His	Ser Cys	Glu Leu	
	75		80		85				

	CTT CAC TCT GCG CTG AGG CCT GTC CCC GGC CAG GGC CTG AGT CTC AGC	341
	Leu His Ser Ala Leu Arg Pro Val Pro Gly Gln Gly Leu Ser Leu Ser	
	90 95 100	
5	ATC TCC GAC TCC TCC ATC CGG GTC CAG GGC AGG TGG AAG GTC CGC AAG	389
	Ile Ser Asp Ser Ser Ile Arg Val Gln Gly Arg Trp Lys Val Arg Lys	
	105 110 115 120	
	TCA TTC TTC AAA CTA CAG GGC TCC TTT GAT GTC AGT GTC AAG GGC ATC	437
	Ser Phe Phe Lys Leu Gln Gly Ser Phe Asp Val Ser Val Lys Gly Ile	
	125 130 135	
10	AGC ATT TCG GTC AAC CTC CTG TTG GGC AGC GAG TCC TCC GGG AGG CCC	485
	Ser Ile Ser Val Asn Leu Leu Leu Gly Ser Glu Ser Ser Gly Arg Pro	
	140 145 150	
	ACA GGT TAC TGC CTC AGC TGC AGC AGT GAC ATC GCT GAC GTG GAG GTG	533
	Thr Gly Tyr Cys Leu Ser Cys Ser Ser Asp Ile Ala Asp Val Glu Val	
15	155 160 165	
	GAC ATG TCC GGA GAT TCG GGG TGG CTG TTG AAC CTC TTC CAC AAC CAG	581
	Asp Met Ser Gly Asp Ser Gly Trp Leu Leu Asn Leu Phe His Asn Gln	
	170 175 180	
20	ATT GAG TCC AAG TTC CAG AAA GTA CTG GAG AGC AGG ATT	620
	Ile Glu Ser Lys Phe Gln Lys Val Leu Glu Ser Arg Ile	
	185 190 195	

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 197 amino acids

(B) TYPE: amino acid

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

30	Met Gly Ala Leu Ala Arg Ala Leu Pro Ser Ile Leu Leu Ala Leu Leu
	1 5 10 15
	Leu Thr Ser Thr Pro Glu Ala Leu Gly Ala Asn Pro Gly Leu Val Ala
	20 25 30

Arg Ile Thr Asp Lys Gly Leu Gln Tyr Ala Ala Gln Glu Gly Leu Leu
 35 40 45

Ala Leu Gln Ser Glu Leu Leu Arg Ile Thr Leu Pro Asp Phe Thr Gly
 50 55 60

5 Asp Leu Arg Ile Pro His Val Gly Arg Gly Arg Tyr Glu Phe His Ser
 65 70 75 80

Leu Asn Ile His Ser Cys Glu Leu Leu His Ser Ala Leu Arg Pro Val
 85 90 95

10 Pro Gly Gln Gly Leu Ser Leu Ser Ile Ser Asp Ser Ser Ile Arg Val
 100 105 110

Gln Gly Arg Trp Lys Val Arg Lys Ser Phe Phe Lys Leu Gln Gly Ser
 115 120 125

Phe Asp Val Ser Val Lys Gly Ile Ser Ile Ser Val Asn Leu Leu Leu
 130 135 140

15 Gly Ser Glu Ser Ser Gly Arg Pro Thr Gly Tyr Cys Leu Ser Cys Ser
 145 150 155 160

Ser Asp Ile Ala Asp Val Glu Val Asp Met Ser Gly Asp Ser Gly Trp
 165 170 175

20 Leu Leu Asn Leu Phe His Asn Gln Ile Glu Ser Lys Phe Gln Lys Val
 180 185 190

Leu Glu Ser Arg Ile
 195

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

25 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

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(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
- (B) LOCATION: 1..24

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

5 GTTCTAGACT GCACTGGGAA TCTA 24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 26 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
- (B) LOCATION: 1..26

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

15 AGGAATTCAA ATCTCTGTTG TAACTG 26

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 5 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: Peptide
- (B) LOCATION: 1..5

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

Ala Asn Pro Gly Leu
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:

- 5 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 852 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- 10 (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
- (vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
 - (B) CLONE: C-terminal LBP
- (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
 - 15 (B) LOCATION: 1..852

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

48	TGC GAA ATG ATC CAG AAA TCA GTG TCC TCC GAT CTA CAG CCT TAT CTC Cys Glu Met Ile Gln Lys Ser Val Ser Ser Asp Leu Gln Pro Tyr Leu 1 5 10 15
20	CAA ACT CTG CCA GTT ACA ACA GAG ATT GAC AGT TTC GCC GAC ATT GAT 96 Gln Thr Leu Pro Val Thr Thr Glu Ile Asp Ser Phe Ala Asp Ile Asp 20 25 30
25	TAT AGC TTA GTG GAA GCC CCT CGG GCA ACA GCC CAG ATG CTG GAG GTG 144 Tyr Ser Leu Val Glu Ala Pro Arg Ala Thr Ala Gln Met Leu Glu Val 35 40 45
192	ATG TTT AAG GGT GAA ATC TTT CAT CGT AAC CAC CGT TCT CCA GTT ACC Met Phe Lys Gly Glu Ile Phe His Arg Asn His Arg Ser Pro Val Thr 50 55 60
30	CTC CTT GCT GCA GTC ATG AGC CTT CCT GAG GAA CAC AAC AAA ATG GTC 240 Leu Leu Ala Ala Val Met Ser Leu Pro Glu Glu His Asn Lys Met Val 65 70 75 80

	TAC TTT GCC ATC TCG GAT TAT GTC TTC AAC ACG GCC AGC CTG GTT TAT	288
	Tyr Phe Ala Ile Ser Asp Tyr Val Phe Asn Thr Ala Ser Leu Val Tyr	
	85 90 95	
5	CAT GAG GAA GGA TAT CTG AAC TTC TCC ATC ACA GAT GAC ATG ATA CCG	336
	His Glu Glu Gly Tyr Leu Asn Phe Ser Ile Thr Asp Asp Met Ile Pro	
	100 105 110	
	CCT GAC TCT AAT ATC CGA CTG ACC ACC AAG TCC TTC CGA CCC TTC GTC	384
	Pro Asp Ser Asn Ile Arg Leu Thr Thr Lys Ser Phe Arg Pro Phe Val	
	115 120 125	
10	CCA CGG TTA GCC AGG CTC TAC CCC AAC ATG AAC CTG GAA CTC CAG GGA	432
	Pro Arg Leu Ala Arg Leu Tyr Pro Asn Met Asn Leu Glu Leu Gln Gly	
	130 135 140	
	TCA GTG CCC TCT GCT CCG CTC CTG AAC TTC AGC CCT GGG AAT CTG TCT	480
	Ser Val Pro Ser Ala Pro Leu Leu Asn Phe Ser Pro Gly Asn Leu Ser	
15	145 150 155 160	
	GTG GAC CCC TAT ATG GAG ATA GAT GCC TTT GTG CTC CTG CCC AGC TCC	528
	Val Asp Pro Tyr Met Glu Ile Asp Ala Phe Val Leu Leu Pro Ser Ser	
	165 170 175	
20	AGC AAG GAG CCT GTC TTC CGG CTC AGT GTG GCC ACT AAT GTG TCC GCC	576
	Ser Lys Glu Pro Val Phe Arg Leu Ser Val Ala Thr Asn Val Ser Ala	
	180 185 190	
	ACC TTG ACC TTC AAT ACC AGC AAG ATC ACT GGG TTC CTG AAG CCA GGA	624
	Thr Leu Thr Phe Asn Thr Ser Lys Ile Thr Gly Phe Leu Lys Pro Gly	
	195 200 205	
25	AAG GTA AAA GTG GAA CTG AAA GAA TCC AAA GTT GGA CTA TTC AAT GCA	672
	Lys Val Lys Val Glu Leu Lys Glu Ser Lys Val Gly Leu Phe Asn Ala	
	210 215 220	
	GAG CTG TTG GAA GCG CTC CTC AAC TAT TAC ATC CTT AAC ACC CTC TAC	720
	Glu Leu Leu Glu Ala Leu Leu Asn Tyr Tyr Ile Leu Asn Thr Leu Tyr	
30	225 230 235 240	
	CCC AAG TTC AAT GAT AAG TTG GCC GAA GGC TTC CCC CTT CCT CTG CTG	768
	Pro Lys Phe Asn Asp Lys Leu Ala Glu Gly Phe Pro Leu Pro Leu Leu	
	245 250 255	

AAG CGT GTT CAG CTC TAC GAC CTT GGG CTG CAG ATC CAT AAG GAC TTC 816
 Lys Arg Val Gln Leu Tyr Asp Leu Gly Leu Gln Ile His Lys Asp Phe
 260 265 270
 CTG TTC TTG GGT GCC AAT GTC CAA TAC ATG AGA GTT 852
 5 Leu Phe Leu Gly Ala Asn Val Gln Tyr Met Arg Val
 275 280

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 284 amino acids
 10 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

15 Cys Glu Met Ile Gln Lys Ser Val Ser Ser Asp Leu Gln Pro Tyr Leu
 1 5 10 15
 Gln Thr Leu Pro Val Thr Thr Glu Ile Asp Ser Phe Ala Asp Ile Asp
 20 20 25 30
 Tyr Ser Leu Val Glu Ala Pro Arg Ala Thr Ala Gln Met Leu Glu Val
 35 40 45
 20 Met Phe Lys Gly Glu Ile Phe His Arg Asn His Arg Ser Pro Val Thr
 50 55 60
 Leu Leu Ala Ala Val Met Ser Leu Pro Glu Glu His Asn Lys Met Val
 65 70 75 80
 25 Tyr Phe Ala Ile Ser Asp Tyr Val Phe Asn Thr Ala Ser Leu Val Tyr
 85 90 95
 His Glu Glu Gly Tyr Leu Asn Phe Ser Ile Thr Asp Asp Met Ile Pro
 100 105 110
 Pro Asp Ser Asn Ile Arg Leu Thr Thr Lys Ser Phe Arg Pro Phe Val
 115 120 125

Pro Arg Leu Ala Arg Leu Tyr Pro Asn Met Asn Leu Glu Leu Gln Gly
 130 135 140

Ser Val Pro Ser Ala Pro Leu Leu Asn Phe Ser Pro Gly Asn Leu Ser
 145 150 155 160

5 Val Asp Pro Tyr Met Glu Ile Asp Ala Phe Val Leu Leu Pro Ser Ser
 165 170 175

Ser Lys Glu Pro Val Phe Arg Leu Ser Val Ala Thr Asn Val Ser Ala
 180 185 190

10 Thr Leu Thr Phe Asn Thr Ser Lys Ile Thr Gly Phe Leu Lys Pro Gly
 195 200 205

Lys Val Lys Val Glu Leu Lys Glu Ser Lys Val Gly Leu Phe Asn Ala
 210 215 220

Glu Leu Leu Glu Ala Leu Leu Asn Tyr Tyr Ile Leu Asn Thr Leu Tyr
 225 230 235 240

15 Pro Lys Phe Asn Asp Lys Leu Ala Glu Gly Phe Pro Leu Pro Leu Leu
 245 250 255

Lys Arg Val Gln Leu Tyr Asp Leu Gly Leu Gln Ile His Lys Asp Phe
 260 265 270

20 Leu Phe Leu Gly Ala Asn Val Gln Tyr Met Arg Val
 275 280

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 1801 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:

- (B) CLONE: human LBP

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(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY: CDS

(B) LOCATION: 1..1443

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

5	ATG GGG GCC TTG GCA AGA GCC CTG CCG TCC ATA CTG CTG GCA TTG CTG	48
	Met Gly Ala Leu Ala Arg Ala Leu Pro Ser Ile Leu Leu Ala Leu Leu	
	1 5 10 15	
	CTT ACG TCC ACC CCA GAG GCT CTG GGT GCC AAC CCC GGC TTG GTC GCC	96
	Leu Thr Ser Thr Pro Glu Ala Leu Gly Ala Asn Pro Gly Leu Val Ala	
10	20 25 30	
	AGG ATC ACC GAC AAG GGA CTG CAG TAT GCG GCC CAG GAG GGG CTA TTG	144
	Arg Ile Thr Asp Lys Gly Leu Gln Tyr Ala Ala Gln Glu Gly Leu Leu	
	35 40 45	
	GCT CTG CAG AGT GAG CTG CTC AGG ATC ACG CTG CCT GAC TTC ACC GGG	192
15	Ala Leu Gln Ser Glu Leu Leu Arg Ile Thr Leu Pro Asp Phe Thr Gly	
	50 55 60	
	GAC TTG AGG ATC CCC CAC GTC GGC CGT GGG CGC TAT GAG TTC CAC AGC	240
	Asp Leu Arg Ile Pro His Val Gly Arg Gly Arg Tyr Glu Phe His Ser	
	65 70 75 80	
20	CTG AAC ATC CAC AGC TGT GAG CTG CTT CAC TCT GCG CTG AGG CCT GTC	288
	Leu Asn Ile His Ser Cys Glu Leu Leu His Ser Ala Leu Arg Pro Val	
	85 90 95	
	CCC GGC CAG GGC CTG AGT CTC AGC ATC TCC GAC TCC TCC ATC CGG GTC	336
25	Pro Gly Gln Gly Leu Ser Leu Ser Ile Ser Asp Ser Ser Ile Arg Val	
	100 105 110	
	CAG GGC AGG TGG AAG GTG CGC AAG TCA TTC TTC AAA CTA CAG GGC TCC	384
	Gln Gly Arg Trp Lys Val Arg Lys Ser Phe Phe Lys Leu Gln Gly Ser	
	115 120 125	
30	TTT GAT GTC AGT GTC AAG GGC ATC AGC ATT TCG GTC AAC CTC CTG TTG	432
	Phe Asp Val Ser Val Lys Gly Ile Ser Ile Ser Val Asn Leu Leu Leu	
	130 135 140	

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	GGC AGC GAG TCC TCC GGG AGG CCC ACA GGT TAC TGC CTC AGC TGC AGC	480
	Gly Ser Glu Ser Ser Gly Arg Pro Thr Gly Tyr Cys Leu Ser Cys Ser	
	145 150 155 160	
5	AGT GAC ATC GCT GAC GTG GAG GTG GAC ATG TCG GGA GAT TCG GGG TGG	528
	Ser Asp Ile Ala Asp Val Glu Val Asp Met Ser Gly Asp Ser Gly Trp	
	165 170 175	
	CTC TTG AAC CTC TTC CAC AAC CAG ATT GAG TCC AAG TTC CAG AAA GTA	576
	Leu Leu Asn Leu Phe His Asn Gln Ile Glu Ser Lys Phe Gln Lys Val	
	180 185 190	
10	CTG GAG AGC AGG ATT TGC GAA ATG ATC CAG AAA TCA GTG TCC TCC GAT	624
	Leu Glu Ser Arg Ile Cys Glu Met Ile Gln Lys Ser Val Ser Ser Asp	
	195 200 205	
15	CTA CAG CCT TAT CTC CAA ACT CTG CCA GTT ACA ACA GAG ATT GAC AGT	672
	Leu Gln Pro Tyr Leu Gln Thr Leu Pro Val Thr Thr Glu Ile Asp Ser	
	210 215 220	
	TTC GCC GAC ATT GAT TAT AGC TTA GTG GAA GCC CCT CGG GCA ACA GCC	720
	Phe Ala Asp Ile Asp Tyr Ser Leu Val Glu Ala Pro Arg Ala Thr Ala	
	225 230 235 240	
20	CAG ATG CTG GAG GTG ATG TTT AAG GGT GAA ATC TTT CAT CGT AAC CAC	768
	Gln Met Leu Glu Val Met Phe Lys Gly Glu Ile Phe His Arg Asn His	
	245 250 255	
	CGT TCT CCA GTT ACC CTC CTT GCT GCA GTC ATG AGC CTT CCT GAG GAA	816
	Arg Ser Pro Val Thr Leu Leu Ala Ala Val Met Ser Leu Pro Glu Glu	
	260 265 270	
25	CAC AAC AAA ATG GTC TAC TTT GCC ATC TCG GAT TAT GTC TTC AAC ACG	864
	His Asn Lys Met Val Tyr Phe Ala Ile Ser Asp Tyr Val Phe Asn Thr	
	275 280 285	
30	GCC AGC CTG GTT TAT CAT GAG GAA GGA TAT CTG AAC TTC TCC ATC ACA	912
	Ala Ser Leu Val Tyr His Glu Glu Gly Tyr Leu Asn Phe Ser Ile Thr	
	290 295 300	
	GAT GAC ATG ATA CCG CCT GAC TCT AAT ATC CGA CTG ACC ACC AAG TCC	960
	Asp Asp Met Ile Pro Pro Asp Ser Asn Ile Arg Leu Thr Thr Lys Ser	
	305 310 315 320	

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TTC CGA CCC TTC GTC CCA CGG TTA GCC AGG CTC TAC CCC AAC ATG AAC 1008
 Phe Arg Pro Phe Val Pro Arg Leu Ala Arg Leu Tyr Pro Asn Met Asn
 325 330 335

5 CTG GAA CTC CAG GGA TCA GTG CCC TCT GCT CCG CTC CTG AAC TTC AGC 1056
 Leu Glu Leu Gln Gly Ser Val Pro Ser Ala Pro Leu Leu Asn Phe Ser
 340 345 350

CCT GGG AAT CTG TCT GTG GAC CCC TAT ATG GAG ATA GAT GCC TTT GTG 1104
 Pro Gly Asn Leu Ser Val Asp Pro Tyr Met Glu Ile Asp Ala Phe Val
 355 360 365

10 CTC CTG CCC AGC TCC AGC AAG GAG CCT GTC TTC CGG CTC AGT GTG GCC 1152
 Leu Leu Pro Ser Ser Ser Lys Glu Pro Val Phe Arg Leu Ser Val Ala
 370 375 380

15 ACT AAT GTG TCC GCC ACC TTG ACC TTC AAT ACC AGC AAG ATC ACT GGG 1200
 Thr Asn Val Ser Ala Thr Leu Thr Phe Asn Thr Ser Lys Ile Thr Gly
 385 390 395 400

TTC CTG AAG CCA GGA AAG GTA AAA GTG GAA CTG AAA GAA TCC AAA GTT 1248
 Phe Leu Lys Pro Gly Lys Val Lys Val Glu Leu Lys Glu Ser Lys Val
 405 410 415

20 GGA CTA TTC AAT GCA GAG CTG TTG GAA GCG CTC CTC AAC TAT TAC ATC 1296
 Gly Leu Phe Asn Ala Glu Leu Leu Glu Ala Leu Leu Asn Tyr Tyr Ile
 420 425 430

CTT AAC ACC CTC TAC CCC AAG TTC AAT GAT AAG TTG GCC GAA GGC TTC 1344
 Leu Asn Thr Leu Tyr Pro Lys Phe Asn Asp Lys Leu Ala Glu Gly Phe
 435 440 445

25 CCC CTT CCT CTG CTG AAG CGT GTT CAG CTC TAC GAC CTT GGG CTG CAG 1392
 Pro Leu Pro Leu Leu Lys Arg Val Gln Leu Tyr Asp Leu Gly Leu Gln
 450 455 460

30 ATC CAT AAG GAC TTC CTG TTC TTG GGT GCC AAT GTC CAA TAC ATG AGA 1440
 Ile His Lys Asp Phe Leu Phe Leu Gly Ala Asn Val Gln Tyr Met Arg
 465 470 475 480

GTT TGAGGACAAG AAAGATGAAG CTTGGAGGTC ACAGGCTGGA TCTGCTTGTT 1493
 Val

GCATTTCCAG CTGTGCAGCA CGTCTCAGAG ATTCTTGAAG AATGAAGACA TTTCTGCTCT 1553

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Leu Leu Pro Ser Ser Ser Lys Glu Pro Val Phe Arg Leu Ser Val Ala
 370 375 380

Thr Asn Val Ser Ala Thr Leu Thr Phe Asn Thr Ser Lys Ile Thr Gly
 385 390 395 400

5 Phe Leu Lys Pro Gly Lys Val Lys Val Glu Leu Lys Glu Ser Lys Val
 405 410 415

Gly Leu Phe Asn Ala Glu Leu Leu Glu Ala Leu Leu Asn Tyr Tyr Ile
 420 425 430

10 Leu Asn Thr Leu Tyr Pro Lys Phe Asn Asp Lys Leu Ala Glu Gly Phe
 435 440 445

Pro Leu Pro Leu Leu Lys Arg Val Gln Leu Tyr Asp Leu Gly Leu Gln
 450 455 460

Ile His Lys Asp Phe Leu Phe Leu Gly Ala Asn Val Gln Tyr Met Arg
 465 470 475 480

15 Val

CLAIMS

1. An isolated lipopolysaccharide (LPS) binding polypeptide with an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and functional fragments thereof or with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:7 and functional fragments thereof.
2. An isolated polynucleotide which encodes the polypeptide of LPS binding protein of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:7.
3. The polynucleotide of claim 2, wherein the LPS binding protein nucleotide sequence is selected from the group consisting of the nucleic acid sequence of
 - a. SEQ ID NO:1, wherein T can also be U;
 - b. SEQ ID NO:6, wherein T can also be U;
 - c. nucleic acid sequences complementary to SEQ ID NO:1;
 - d. nucleic acid sequences complementary to SEQ ID NO:6;
 - e. fragments of a. or c. that are at least 15 bases in length and that will selectively hybridize to genomic DNA which encodes polypeptide of LPS binding protein of SEQ ID NO:2.
 - f. fragments of b. or d. that are at least 15 bases in length and that will selectively hybridize to genomic DNA which encodes polypeptide of LPS binding protein of SEQ ID NO:7.
4. An antibody which binds to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:7.
5. The antibody of claim 4, wherein the antibody is polyclonal.
6. The antibody of claim 5, wherein the antibody is monoclonal.

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Leu Leu Pro Ser Ser Ser Lys Glu Pro Val Phe Arg Leu Ser Val Ala
 370 375 380

Thr Asn Val Ser Ala Thr Leu Thr Phe Asn Thr Ser Lys Ile Thr Gly
 385 390 395 400

5 Phe Leu Lys Pro Gly Lys Val Lys Val Glu Leu Lys Glu Ser Lys Val
 405 410 415

Gly Leu Phe Asn Ala Glu Leu Leu Glu Ala Leu Leu Asn Tyr Tyr Ile
 420 425 430

10 Leu Asn Thr Leu Tyr Pro Lys Phe Asn Asp Lys Leu Ala Glu Gly Phe
 435 440 445

Pro Leu Pro Leu Leu Lys Arg Val Gln Leu Tyr Asp Leu Gly Leu Gln
 450 455 460

Ile His Lys Asp Phe Leu Phe Leu Gly Ala Asn Val Gln Tyr Met Arg
 465 470 475 480

15 Val

CLAIMS

1. An isolated lipopolysaccharide (LPS) binding polypeptide with an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and functional fragments thereof or with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:7 and functional fragments thereof.
2. An isolated polynucleotide which encodes the polypeptide of LPS binding protein of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:7.
3. The polynucleotide of claim 2, wherein the LPS binding protein nucleotide sequence is selected from the group consisting of the nucleic acid sequence of
 - a. SEQ ID NO:1, wherein T can also be U;
 - b. SEQ ID NO:6, wherein T can also be U;
 - c. nucleic acid sequences complementary to SEQ ID NO:1;
 - d. nucleic acid sequences complementary to SEQ ID NO:6;
 - e. fragments of a. or c. that are at least 15 bases in length and that will selectively hybridize to genomic DNA which encodes polypeptide of LPS binding protein of SEQ ID NO:2.
 - f. fragments of b. or d. that are at least 15 bases in length and that will selectively hybridize to genomic DNA which encodes polypeptide of LPS binding protein of SEQ ID NO:7.
4. An antibody which binds to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:7.
5. The antibody of claim 4, wherein the antibody is polyclonal.
6. The antibody of claim 5, wherein the antibody is monoclonal.

5

7. The antibody of claim 6, wherein the antibody competitively inhibits the binding of LPS binding protein (LBP) to LPS.
8. The antibody of claim 6, wherein the antibody competitively inhibits the binding of LPS binding protein:LPS to CD14.
9. A method of detecting lipopolysaccharide (LPS) endotoxin in a sample from a mammal comprising:
 - a. contacting a sample of body fluid suspected of containing LPS with a polypeptide of LPS binding protein wherein the polypeptide forms a complex with LPS which does not bind to CD14 receptor;
 - b. incubating the mixture for a sufficient time to allow the LPS and the polypeptide of LPS-binding protein to bind; and
 - c. detecting the LPS of LPS-binding protein complex.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein the polypeptide of LPS-binding protein is the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
11. The method of claim 9, wherein the LPS is derived from a gram-negative bacteria.
12. The method of claim 9, wherein the detection is *in vitro*.
13. The method of claim 9, wherein the detection is *in vivo*.
14. The method of claim 9, wherein the polypeptide of LPS-binding protein is labeled.

- 5
15. The method of claim 14, wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of enzymes, radioisotopes, fluorescent compounds, colloidal metals, chemiluminescent compounds, phosphorescent compounds, and bioluminescent compounds.
 16. A method of ameliorating sepsis comprising administering to a subject with symptoms of sepsis or at risk for developing sepsis, a therapeutically effective amount of:
 - a. a polypeptide of LPS-binding protein wherein the polypeptide forms a complex with LPS which does not bind to CD14 receptor;
 - b. a polypeptide of LPS-binding protein wherein the polypeptide inhibits the binding of LPS:LBP complex to CD14 receptor via interaction with the CD14 receptor;
 - c. antibody to a. or b.; and
 - d. mixtures of a., b., and c.
 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide of LPS binding protein is the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2.
 18. The method of claim 16, wherein the antibody binds to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2.
 19. The method of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide of LPS binding protein is the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:7.
 20. The method of claim 16, wherein the antibody binds to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:7.
 21. The method of claim 18, wherein the antibody is monoclonal.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the antibody inhibits the binding of LPS binding protein to LPS.
23. The method of claim 20, wherein the antibody is monoclonal.
24. The method of claim 23, wherein the antibody inhibits the binding of LPS:LBP complex to CD14 receptor.
25. The method of claim 16, wherein the antibody is an anti-idiotypic antibody.
26. The method of claim 25, wherein the anti-idiotypic antibody binds to a paratope of an antibody which binds to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:7.
27. The method of claim 16, further comprising administering to the subject a bactericidal amount of antibiotic.
28. The method of claim 16, further comprising administering to the subject a tumor necrosis factor (TNF)-blood concentration reducing amount of anti-TNF antibody.
29. The method of claim 27, further comprising administering to the subject a TNF-blood concentration reducing amount of anti-TNF antibody.
30. The method of claim 27, wherein the antibiotic is an anti-bacterial agent effective against gram-negative bacteria.
31. The method of claim 16, wherein the sepsis is caused by a gram-negative bacterial infection, a virus, a gram-positive bacterial infection or a fungus.

32. The method of claim 16, wherein the symptoms of sepsis include one or more of the following: adult respiratory distress syndrome, disseminated intravascular coagulation, renal failure and hepatic failure.
33. A method of ameliorating sepsis in a subject comprising administering to a subject with symptoms of sepsis or at risk for developing sepsis an effective amount of polypeptide of LPS binding protein or antibody to polypeptide of LPS binding protein sufficient to inhibit LPS-induced TNF secretion by a myeloid cell in the subject.
34. The method of claim 33, wherein the LPS binding protein is the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:7.
35. The method of claim 33, wherein the antibody binds to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:7.
36. The method of claim 35, wherein the antibody is monoclonal.
37. The method of claim 36, wherein the antibody competitively inhibits the binding of LPS binding protein to LPS or LPS:LPS binding protein complex to CD14.
38. The method of claim 33, wherein the antibody is an anti-idiotypic antibody.
39. The method of claim 38, wherein the anti-idiotypic antibody binds to a paratope of an antibody which binds to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:7.
40. The method of claim 33, further comprising administering to the subject a bactericidal amount of antibiotic.

41. The method of claim 33, further comprising administering to the subject a tumor necrosis factor (TNF)-blood concentration reducing amount of anti-TNF antibody.
42. The method of claim 40, further comprising administering to the subject a TNF-blood concentration reducing amount of anti-TNF antibody.
43. The method of claim 40, wherein the antibiotic is an anti-bacterial agent effective against gram-negative bacteria.
44. The method of claim 33, wherein the sepsis is caused by a gram-negative bacterial infection, a virus, a gram-positive bacterial infection or a fungus.
45. The method of claim 33, wherein the symptoms of sepsis include one or more of the following: adult respiratory distress syndrome, disseminated intravascular coagulation, renal failure and hepatic failure.
46. A therapeutic pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide of LPS-binding protein which inhibits the binding of an LPS:LBP complex to CD14 in a pharmaceutical carrier.
47. The composition of claim 46, wherein the LPS-binding protein polypeptide has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
48. The composition of claim 46, further comprising anti-TNF antibody.
49. The composition of claim 46, further comprising a bactericidal amount of an antibiotic.
50. The composition of claim 48, further comprising a bactericidal amount of an antibiotic.

51. The composition of claim 46, wherein the LPS-binding protein polypeptide has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:7.

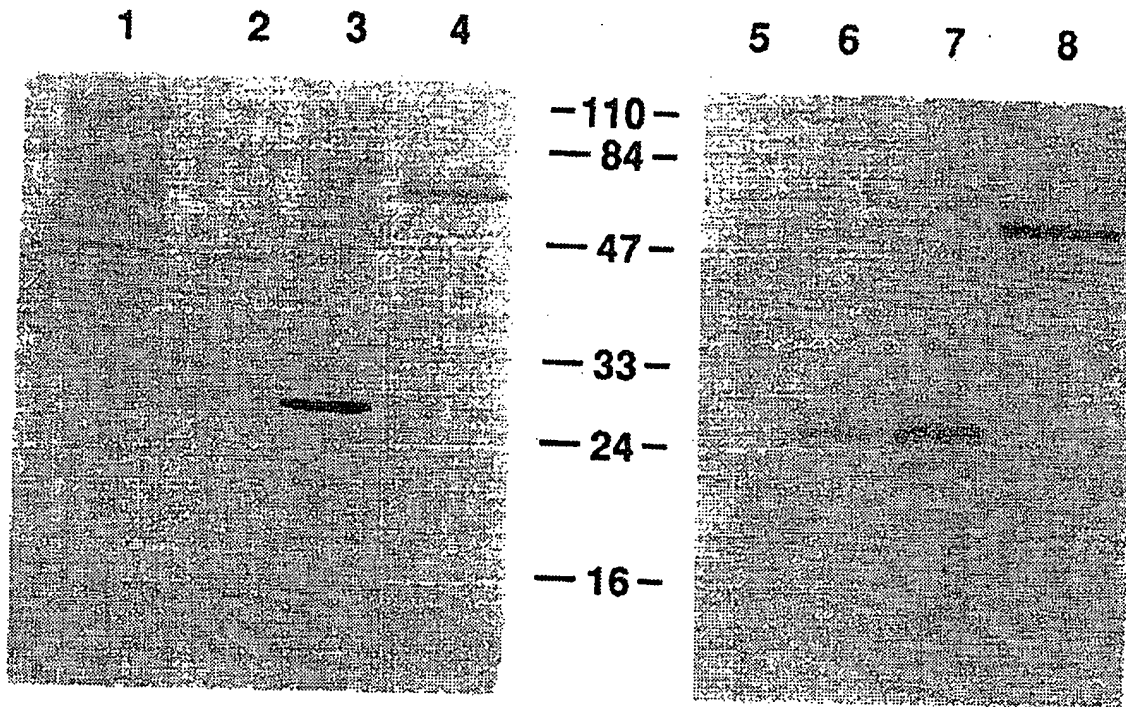


FIG. 1

Lane #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
LBP	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
sCD14	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
NH-LBP	0	0.5	5	0	0.5	5	0.5	5	50	0.5	5	50

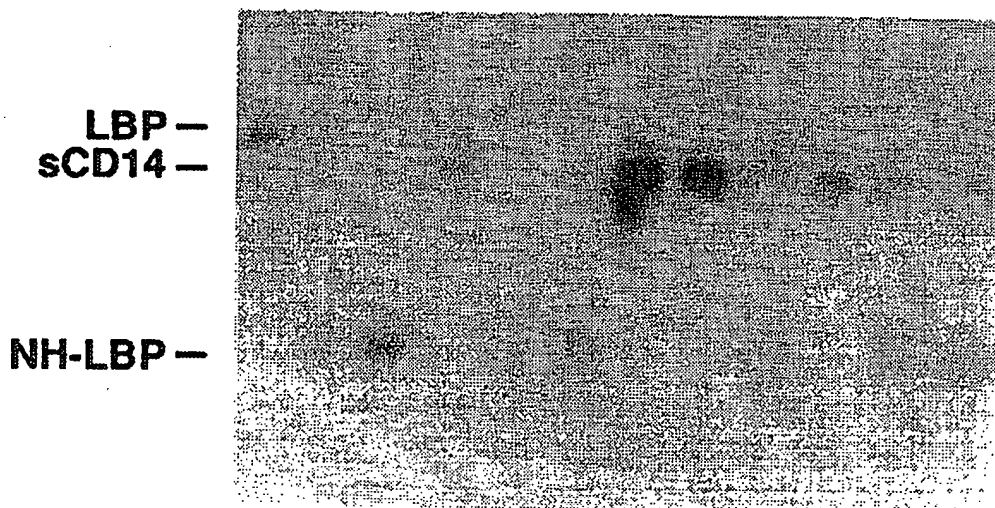


FIG. 2

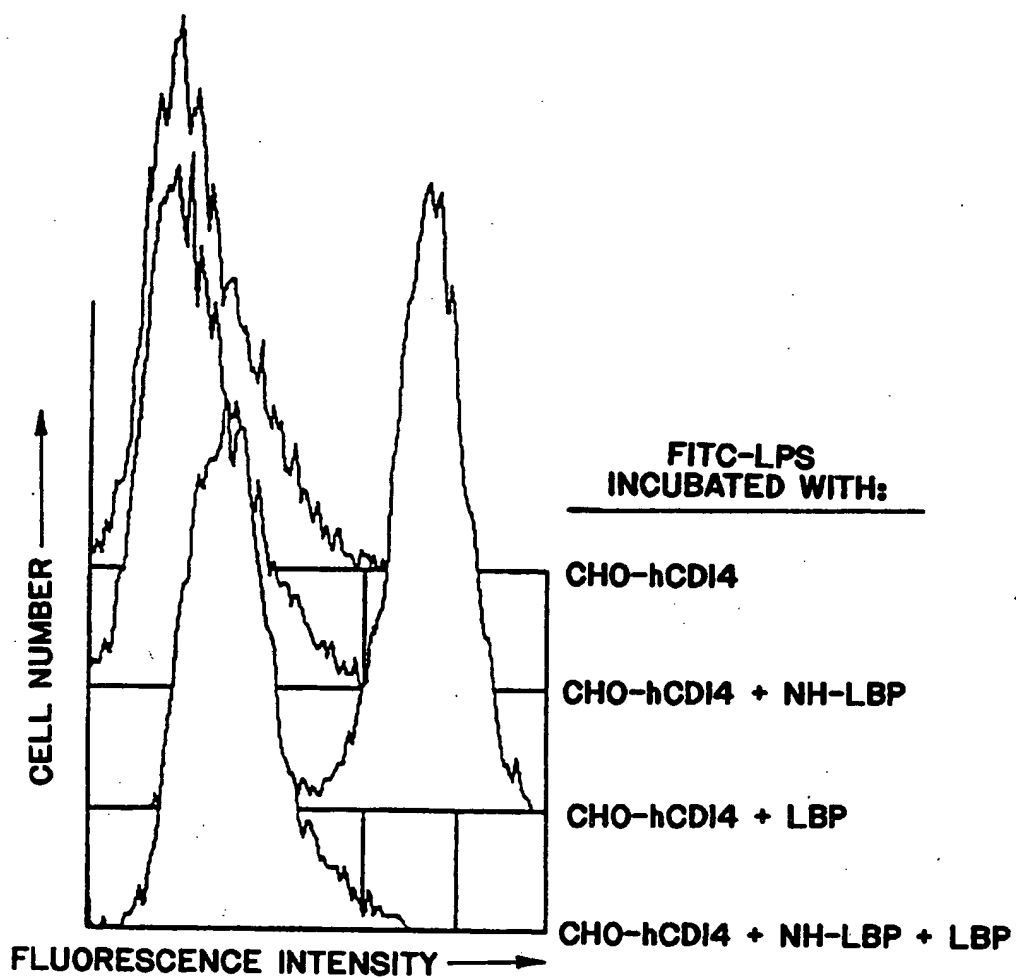


FIG. 3A

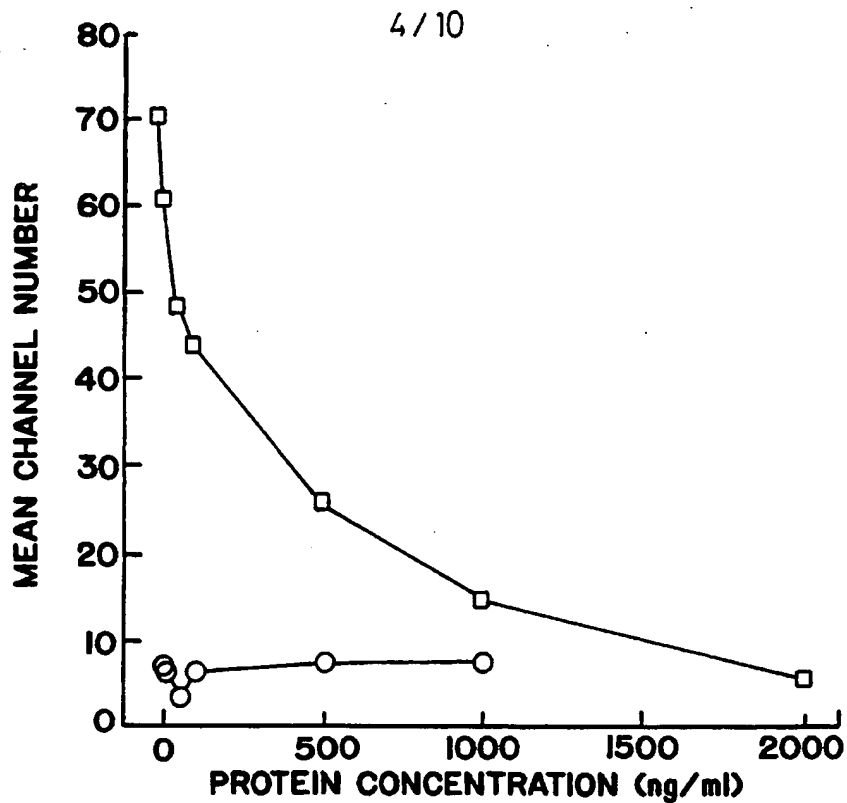


FIG. 3B

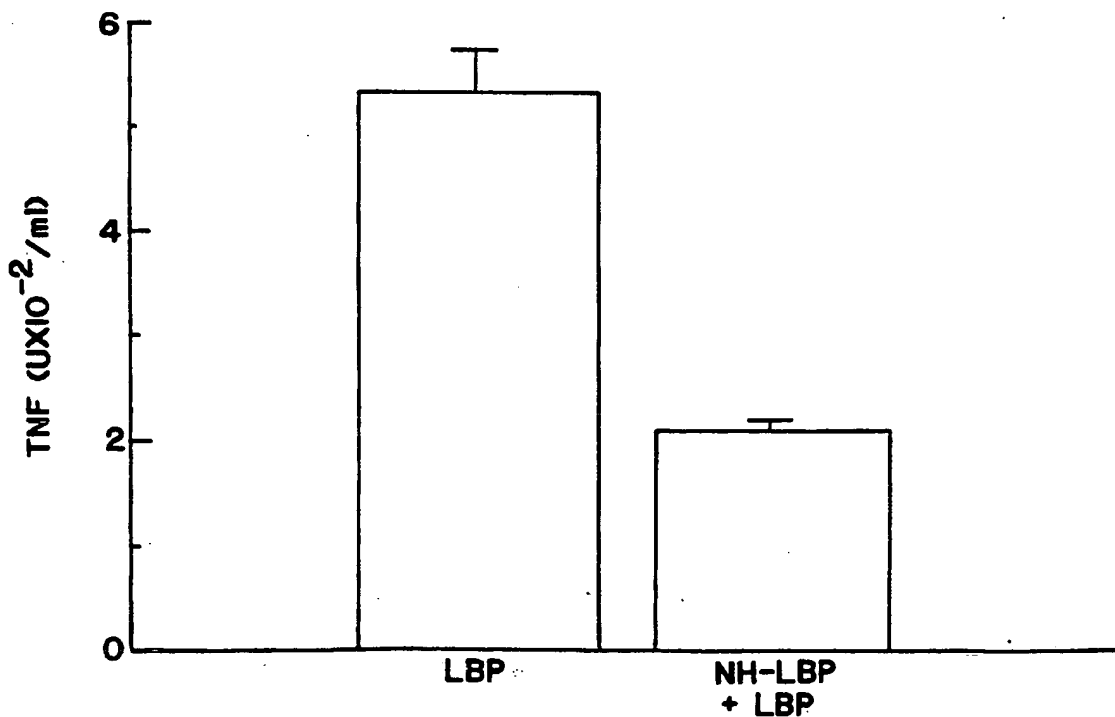


FIG. 4

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ATG	GGG	GCC	TTG	GCA	AGA	GCC	CTG	CCG	TCC	ATA	CTG	CTG	GCA	TTG	CTG	48
Met	Gly	Ala	Leu	Ala	Arg	Ala	Leu	Pro	Ser	Ile	Leu	Leu	Ala	Leu	Leu	
1				5					10					15		
CTT	ACG	TCC	ACC	CCA	GAG	GCT	CTG	GGT	GCC	AAC	CCC	GGC	TTG	GTC	GCC	96
Leu	Thr	Ser	Thr	Pro	Glu	Ala	Leu	Gly	Ala	Asn	Pro	Gly	Leu	Val	Ala	
			20					25					30			
AGG	ATC	ACC	GAC	AAG	GGA	CTG	CAG	TAT	GCG	GCC	CAG	GAG	GGG	CTA	TTG	144
Arg	Ile	Thr	Asp	Lys	Gly	Leu	Gln	Tyr	Ala	Ala	Gln	Glu	Gly	Leu	Leu	
		35					40					45				
GCT	CTG	CAG	AGT	GAG	CTG	CTC	AGG	ATC	ACG	CTG	CCT	GAC	TTC	ACC	GGG	192
Ala	Leu	Gln	Ser	Glu	Leu	Leu	Arg	Ile	Thr	Leu	Pro	Asp	Phe	Thr	Gly	
	50					55					60					
GAC	TTG	AGG	ATC	CCC	CAC	GTC	GGC	CGT	GGG	CGC	TAT	GAG	TTC	CAC	AGC	240
Asp	Leu	Arg	Ile	Pro	His	Val	Gly	Arg	Gly	Arg	Tyr	Glu	Phe	His	Ser	
65					70				75						80	
CTG	AAC	ATC	CAC	AGC	TGT	GAG	CTG	CTT	CAC	TCT	GCG	CTG	AGG	CCT	GTC	288
Leu	Asn	Ile	His	Ser	Cys	Glu	Leu	Leu	His	Ser	Ala	Leu	Arg	Pro	Val	
				85					90					95		
CCC	GGC	CAG	GGC	CTG	AGT	CTC	AGC	ATC	TCC	GAC	TCC	TCC	ATC	CGG	GTC	336
Pro	Gly	Gln	Gly	Leu	Ser	Leu	Ser	Ile	Ser	Asp	Ser	Ser	Ile	Arg	Val	
			100					105					110			
CAG	GGC	AGG	TGG	AAG	GTG	CGC	AAG	TCA	TTC	TTC	AAA	CTA	CAG	GGC	TCC	384
Gln	Gly	Arg	Trp	Lys	Val	Arg	Lys	Ser	Phe	Phe	Lys	Leu	Gln	Gly	Ser	
		115					120					125				
TTT	GAT	GTC	AGT	GTC	AAG	GGC	ATC	AGC	ATT	TCG	GTC	AAC	CTC	CTG	TTG	432
Phe	Asp	Val	Ser	Val	Lys	Gly	Ile	Ser	Ile	Ser	Val	Asn	Leu	Leu	Leu	
	130					135					140					
GGC	AGC	GAG	TCC	TCC	GGG	AGG	CCC	ACA	GGT	TAC	TGC	CTC	AGC	TGC	AGC	480
Gly	Ser	Glu	Ser	Ser	Gly	Arg	Pro	Thr	Gly	Tyr	Cys	Leu	Ser	Cys	Ser	
145					150					155				160		
AGT	GAC	ATC	GCT	GAC	GTG	GAG	GTG	GAC	ATG	TCG	GGA	GAT	TCG	GGG	TGG	528
Ser	Asp	Ile	Ala	Asp	Val	Glu	Val	Asp	Met	Ser	Gly	Asp	Ser	Gly	Trp	
				165					170					175		
CTC	TTG	AAC	CTC	TTC	CAC	AAC	CAG	ATT	GAG	TCC	AAG	TTC	CAG	AAA	GTA	576
Leu	Leu	Asn	Leu	Phe	His	Asn	Gln	Ile	Glu	Ser	Lys	Phe	Gln	Lys	Val	
			180					185					190			
CTG	GAG	AGC	AGG	ATT	TGC	GAA	ATG	ATC	CAG	AAA	TCA	GTG	TCC	TCC	GAT	624
Leu	Glu	Ser	Arg	Ile	Cys	Glu	Met	Ile	Gln	Lys	Ser	Val	Ser	Ser	Asp	
		195					200					205				

FIG. 5A

CTA CAG CCT TAT CTC CAA ACT CTG CCA GTT ACA ACA GAG ATT GAC AGT Leu Gln Pro Tyr Leu Gln Thr Leu Pro Val Thr Thr Glu Ile Asp Ser 210 215 220	672
TTC GCC GAC ATT GAT TAT AGC TTA GTG GAA GCC CCT CGG GCA ACA GCC Phe Ala Asp Ile Asp Tyr Ser Leu Val Glu Ala Pro Arg Ala Thr Ala 225 230 235 240	720
CAG ATG CTG GAG GTG ATG TTT AAG GGT GAA ATC TTT CAT CGT AAC CAC Gln Met Leu Glu Val Met Phe Lys Gly Glu Ile Phe His Arg Asn His 245 250 255	768
CGT TCT CCA GTT ACC CTC CTT GCT GCA GTC ATG AGC CTT CCT GAG GAA Arg Ser Pro Val Thr Leu Leu Ala Ala Val Met Ser Leu Pro Glu Glu 260 265 270	816
CAC AAC AAA ATG GTC TAC TTT GCC ATC TCG GAT TAT GTC TTC AAC ACG His Asn Lys Met Val Tyr Phe Ala Ile Ser Asp Tyr Val Phe Asn Thr 275 280 285	864
GCC AGC CTG GTT TAT CAT GAG GAA GGA TAT CTG AAC TTC TCC ATC ACA Ala Ser Leu Val Tyr His Glu Glu Gly Tyr Leu Asn Phe Ser Ile Thr 290 295 300	912
GAT GAC ATG ATA CCG CCT GAC TCT AAT ATC CGA CTG ACC ACC AAG TCC Asp Asp Met Ile Pro Pro Asp Ser Asn Ile Arg Leu Thr Thr Lys Ser 305 310 315 320	960
TTC CGA CCC TTC GTC CCA CGG TTA GCC AGG CTC TAC CCC AAC ATG AAC Phe Arg Pro Phe Val Pro Arg Leu Ala Arg Leu Tyr Pro Asn Met Asn 325 330 335	1008
CTG GAA CTC CAG GGA TCA GTG CCC TCT GCT CCG CTC CTG AAC TTC AGC Leu Glu Leu Gln Gly Ser Val Pro Ser Ala Pro Leu Leu Asn Phe Ser 340 345 350	1056
CCT GGG AAT CTG TCT GTG GAC CCC TAT ATG GAG ATA GAT GCC TTT GTG Pro Gly Asn Leu Ser Val Asp Pro Tyr Met Glu Ile Asp Ala Phe Val 355 360 365	1104
CTC CTG CCC AGC TCC AGC AAG GAG CCT GTC TTC CGG CTC AGT GTG GCC Leu Leu Pro Ser Ser Ser Lys Glu Pro Val Phe Arg Leu Ser Val Ala 370 375 380	1152
ACT AAT GTG TCC GCC ACC TTG ACC TTC AAT ACC AGC AAG ATC ACT GGG Thr Asn Val Ser Ala Thr Leu Thr Phe Asn Thr Ser Lys Ile Thr Gly 385 390 395 400	1200
TTC CTG AAG CCA GGA AAG GTA AAA GTG GAA CTG AAA GAA TCC AAA GTT Phe Leu Lys Pro Gly Lys Val Lys Val Glu Leu Lys Glu Ser Lys Val 405 410 415	1248

FIG. 5B

GGA CTA TTC AAT GCA GAG CTG TTG GAA GCG CTC CTC AAC TAT TAC ATC	1296
Gly Leu Phe Asn Ala Glu Leu Leu Glu Ala Leu Leu Asn Tyr Tyr Ile	
420 425 430	
CTT AAC ACC CTC TAC CCC AAG TTC AAT GAT AAG TTG GCC GAA GGC TTC	1344
Leu Asn Thr Leu Tyr Pro Lys Phe Asn Asp Lys Leu Ala Glu Gly Phe	
435 440 445	
CCC CTT CCT CTG CTG AAG CGT GTT CAG CTC TAC GAC CTT GGG CTG CAG	1392
Pro Leu Pro Leu Leu Lys Arg Val Gln Leu Tyr Asp Leu Gly Leu Gln	
450 455 460	
ATC CAT AAG GAC TTC CTG TTC TTG GGT GCC AAT GTC CAA TAC ATG AGA	1440
Ile His Lys Asp Phe Leu Phe Leu Gly Ala Asn Val Gln Tyr Met Arg	
465 470 475 480	
GTT TGAGGACAAG AAAGATGAAG CTTGGAGGTC ACAGGCTGGA TCTGCTTGTT	1493
Val	
GCATTTCCAG CTGTGCAGCA CGTCTCAGAG ATTCTTGAAG AATGAAGACA TTTCTGCTCT	1553
CAGCTCCGGG GGTGAGGTGT GCCTGGCCTC TGCCCTCCACC CTCCTCCTCT TCACCAGGTG	1613
CATGCATGCC CTCTCTGAGT CTGGACTTTG CTTCCCCTCC AGGAGGGACC ACCCTCCCCG	1673
ACTGGCCTGG GATATCTTTA CAAGCAGGCA CTGTATTTTT TTATTCGCCA TCTGATCCCC	1733
ATGCCTAGCA GAGTGCTGGC ACTTAGTAGG TCCTCAATAA ATATTTAGGT CGACGAGCTC	1793
GAGAATTC	1801

FIG. 5C

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CTCCTGGCCC ACTGCACTGG GAATCTAGG ATG GGG GCC TTG GCA AGA GCC CTG 53
 Met Gly Ala Leu Ala Arg Ala Leu
 1 5

CCG TCC ATA CTC CTC GCA TTG CTG CTT ACC TCC ACC CCA GAG GCT CTC 101
 Pro Ser Ile Leu Leu Ala Leu Leu Thr Ser Thr Pro Glu Ala Leu
 10 15 20

GGT GCC AAC CCC GGC TTG GTC GCC AGG ATC ACC GAC AAG GGA CTG CAG 149
 Gly Ala Asn Pro Gly Leu Val Ala Arg Ile Thr Asp Lys Gly Leu Gln
 25 30 35 40

TAT GCG GCC CAG GAG GGG CTA TTG GCT CTG CAG AGT GAG CTG CTC AGG 197
 Tyr Ala Ala Gln Glu Gly Leu Leu Ala Leu Gln Ser Glu Leu Leu Arg
 45 50 55

ATC ACG CTG CCT GAC TTC ACC GGG GAC TTG AGG ATC CCC CAC GTC GGC 245
 Ile Thr Leu Pro Asp Phe Thr Gly Asp Leu Arg Ile Pro His Val Gly
 60 65 70

CGT GGG CGC TAT GAG TTC CAC AGC CTG AAC ATC CAC AGC TGT GAG CTG 293
 Arg Gly Arg Tyr Glu Phe His Ser Leu Asn Ile His Ser Cys Glu Leu
 75 80 85

CTT CAC TCT GCG CTG AGG CCT GTC CCC GGC CAG GGC CTG AGT CTC AGC 341
 Leu His Ser Ala Leu Arg Pro Val Pro Gly Gln Gly Leu Ser Leu Ser
 90 95 100

ATC TCC GAC TCC TCC ATC CGG GTC CAG GGC AGG TGG AAG GTC CGC AAG 389
 Ile Ser Asp Ser Ser Ile Arg Val Gln Gly Arg Trp Lys Val Arg Lys
 105 110 115 120

TCA TTC TTC AAA CTA CAG GGC TCC TTT GAT GTC AGT GTC AAG GGC ATC 437
 Ser Phe Phe Lys Leu Gln Gly Ser Phe Asp Val Ser Val Lys Gly Ile
 125 130 135

AGC ATT TCG GTC AAC CTC CTG TTG GGC AGC GAG TCC TCC GGG AGG CCC 485
 Ser Ile Ser Val Asn Leu Leu Leu Gly Ser Glu Ser Ser Gly Arg Pro
 140 145 150

ACA GGT TAC TGC CTC AGC TGC AGC AGT GAC ATC GCT GAC GTG GAG GTG 533
 Thr Gly Tyr Cys Leu Ser Cys Ser Ser Asp Ile Ala Asp Val Glu Val
 155 160 165

GAC ATG TCC GGA GAT TCG GGG TGG CTG TTG AAC CTC TTC CAC AAC CAG 581
 Asp Met Ser Gly Asp Ser Gly Trp Leu Leu Asn Leu Phe His Asn Gln
 170 175 180

ATT GAG TCC AAG TTC CAG AAA GTA CTG GAG AGC AGG ATT 620
 Ile Glu Ser Lys Phe Gln Lys Val Leu Glu Ser Arg Ile
 185 190 195

FIG. 6

TGC	GAA	ATG	ATC	CAG	AAA	TCA	GTG	TCC	TCC	GAT	CTA	CAG	CCT	TAT	CTC	48
Cys	Glu	Met	Ile	Gln	Lys	Ser	Val	Ser	Ser	Asp	Leu	Gln	Pro	Tyr	Leu	
1				5					10					15		
CAA	ACT	CTG	CCA	GTT	ACA	ACA	GAG	ATT	GAC	AGT	TTC	GCC	GAC	ATT	GAT	96
Gln	Thr	Leu	Pro	Val	Thr	Thr	Glu	Ile	Asp	Ser	Phe	Ala	Asp	Ile	Asp	
			20					25					30			
TAT	AGC	TTA	GTG	GAA	GCC	CCT	CGG	GCA	ACA	GCC	CAG	ATG	CTG	GAG	GTG	144
Tyr	Ser	Leu	Val	Glu	Ala	Pro	Arg	Ala	Thr	Ala	Gln	Met	Leu	Glu	Val	
		35					40					45				
ATG	TTT	AAG	GGT	GAA	ATC	TTT	CAT	CGT	AAC	CAC	CGT	TCT	CCA	GTT	ACC	192
Met	Phe	Lys	Gly	Glu	Ile	Phe	His	Arg	Asn	His	Arg	Ser	Pro	Val	Thr	
	50					55					60					
CTC	CTT	GCT	GCA	GTC	ATG	AGC	CTT	CCT	GAG	GAA	CAC	AAC	AAA	ATG	GTC	240
Leu	Leu	Ala	Ala	Val	Met	Ser	Leu	Pro	Glu	Glu	His	Asn	Lys	Met	Val	
65					70					75					80	
TAC	TTT	GCC	ATC	TCG	GAT	TAT	GTC	TTC	AAC	ACG	GCC	AGC	CTG	GTT	TAT	288
Tyr	Phe	Ala	Ile	Ser	Asp	Tyr	Val	Phe	Asn	Thr	Ala	Ser	Leu	Val	Tyr	
				85					90					95		
CAT	GAG	GAA	GGA	TAT	CTG	AAC	TTC	TCC	ATC	ACA	GAT	GAC	ATG	ATA	CCG	336
His	Glu	Glu	Gly	Tyr	Leu	Asn	Phe	Ser	Ile	Thr	Asp	Asp	Met	Ile	Pro	
			100					105					110			
CCT	GAC	TCT	AAT	ATC	CGA	CTG	ACC	ACC	AAG	TCC	TTC	CGA	CCC	TTC	GTC	384
Pro	Asp	Ser	Asn	Ile	Arg	Leu	Thr	Thr	Lys	Ser	Phe	Arg	Pro	Phe	Val	
		115					120					125				
CCA	CGG	TTA	GCC	AGG	CTC	TAC	CCC	AAC	ATG	AAC	CTG	GAA	CTC	CAG	GGA	432
Pro	Arg	Leu	Ala	Arg	Leu	Tyr	Pro	Asn	Met	Asn	Leu	Glu	Leu	Gln	Gly	
	130					135					140					

FIG. 7A

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TCA	GTG	CCC	TCT	GCT	CCG	CTC	CTG	AAC	TTC	AGC	CCT	GGG	AAT	CTG	TCT	480
Ser	Val	Pro	Ser	Ala	Pro	Leu	Leu	Asn	Phe	Ser	Pro	Gly	Asn	Leu	Ser	
145					150					155					160	
GTG	GAC	CCC	TAT	ATG	GAG	ATA	GAT	GCC	TTT	GTG	CTC	CTG	CCC	AGC	TCC	528
Val	Asp	Pro	Tyr	Met	Glu	Ile	Asp	Ala	Phe	Val	Leu	Leu	Pro	Ser	Ser	
				165					170						175	
AGC	AAG	GAG	CCT	GTC	TTC	CGG	CTC	AGT	GTG	GCC	ACT	AAT	GTG	TCC	GCC	576
Ser	Lys	Glu	Pro	Val	Phe	Arg	Leu	Ser	Val	Ala	Thr	Asn	Val	Ser	Ala	
			180						185					190		
ACC	TTG	ACC	TTC	AAT	ACC	AGC	AAG	ATC	ACT	GGG	TTC	CTG	AAG	CCA	GGA	624
Thr	Leu	Thr	Phe	Asn	Thr	Ser	Lys	Ile	Thr	Gly	Phe	Leu	Lys	Pro	Gly	
		195					200					205				
AAG	GTA	AAA	GTG	GAA	CTG	AAA	GAA	TCC	AAA	GTT	GGA	CTA	TTC	AAT	CCA	672
Lys	Val	Lys	Val	Glu	Leu	Lys	Glu	Ser	Lys	Val	Gly	Leu	Phe	Asn	Ala	
	210					215					220					
GAG	CTG	TTG	GAA	GCG	CTC	CTC	AAC	TAT	TAC	ATC	CTT	AAC	ACC	CTC	TAC	720
Glu	Leu	Leu	Glu	Ala	Leu	Leu	Asn	Tyr	Tyr	Ile	Leu	Asn	Thr	Leu	Tyr	
225					230					235					240	
CCC	AAG	TTC	AAT	GAT	AAG	TTG	GCC	GAA	GGC	TTC	CCC	CTT	CCT	CTG	CTG	768
Pro	Lys	Phe	Asn	Asp	Lys	Leu	Ala	Glu	Gly	Phe	Pro	Leu	Pro	Leu	Leu	
				245					250						255	
AAG	CGT	GTT	CAG	CTC	TAC	GAC	CTT	GGG	CTG	CAG	ATC	CAT	AAG	GAC	TTC	816
Lys	Arg	Val	Gln	Leu	Tyr	Asp	Leu	Gly	Leu	Gln	Ile	His	Lys	Asp	Phe	
			260					265							270	
CTG	TTC	TTG	GGT	GCC	AAT	GTC	CAA	TAC	ATG	AGA	GTT					852
Leu	Phe	Leu	Gly	Ala	Asn	Val	Gln	Tyr	Met	Arg	Val					
		275					280									

FIG. 7B

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US95/03384

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) : C07K 4/10, 16/12, 16/28; A61K 39/02

US CL : 424/197.11; 530/351, 388.4

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 424/197.11; 530/351, 388.4

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Sequence searched (seq. id. no. 8)

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

APS, CAS, MEDLINE, search terms: LPS, LBP, LPS binding protein, lipopolysaccharide binding protein

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	Science, Vol. 249, issued 21 September 1990, Schumann et al., "Structure and Function of Lipopolysaccharide Binding Protein", pages 1429-1431, see entire document.	1-51
Y	Journal of Experimental Medicine, Vol. 174, issued September 1991, Ooi et al., "Endotoxin-neutralizing Properties of the 25 kD N-Terminal Fragment and a Newly Isolated 30 kD C-Terminal Fragment of the 55-60 kD Bactericidal/Permeability-increasing Protein of Human Neutrophils", pages 649-655, see entire document.	1-51

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

A	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	*I*	late document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
E	earlier document published on or after the international filing date	*X*	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
L	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	*Y*	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
O	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	*Z*	document member of the same patent family
P	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search

07 JUNE 1995

Date of mailing of the international search report

12 JUL 1995

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORTInternational application No.
PCT/US95/03384

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	Journal of Experimental Medicine, Vol. 164, issued September 1986, Tobias et al., "Isolation of a Lipopolysaccharide-Binding Acute Phase Reactant from Rabbit Serum", pages 777-793, see entire document.	1-51
Y	The Journal of Biological Chemistry, Vol. 263, No. 11, issued 15 April 1988, Swenson et al., "Plasma Cholesteryl Ester Transfer Protein Has Binding Sites for Neutral Lipids and Phospholipids", pages 5150-5157, see entire document.	1-51